Shaman King
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Hiroyuki Takei
volume 1

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

VOL. 1
A SHAMAN IN TOKYO

STORY AND ART BY
HIROYUKI TAKEI

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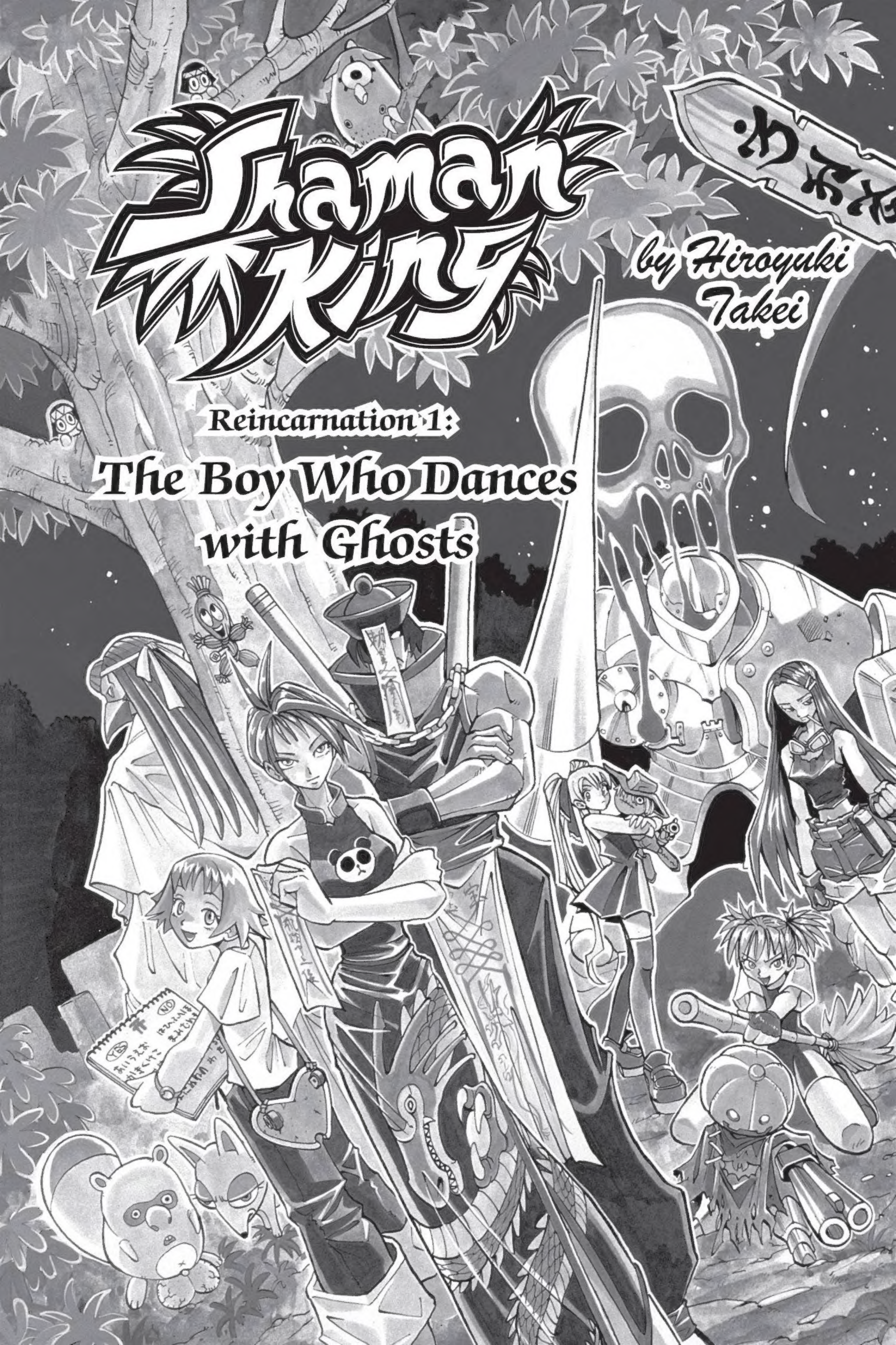
Wandering souls of the dead...
Forest spirits...
Even the ancient gods...
There are people who can communicate freely with these beings...
And evoke into this world powers beyond humanity.
They are called...
Shamans.

TAKEI


Shaman King
by Hiroyuki Takei
Reincarnation 1:
The Boy Who Dances with Ghosts

DARN IT!

puff

puff

tat tat tat tat

huff

huff

THAT'S IT!

NO TRESPASSING

CRAM SCHOOL RAN LATE!

NOW I'M GONNA MISS THE LAST TRAIN!

HMM?

gasp

HEY! WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?

!?

HUH?

klank

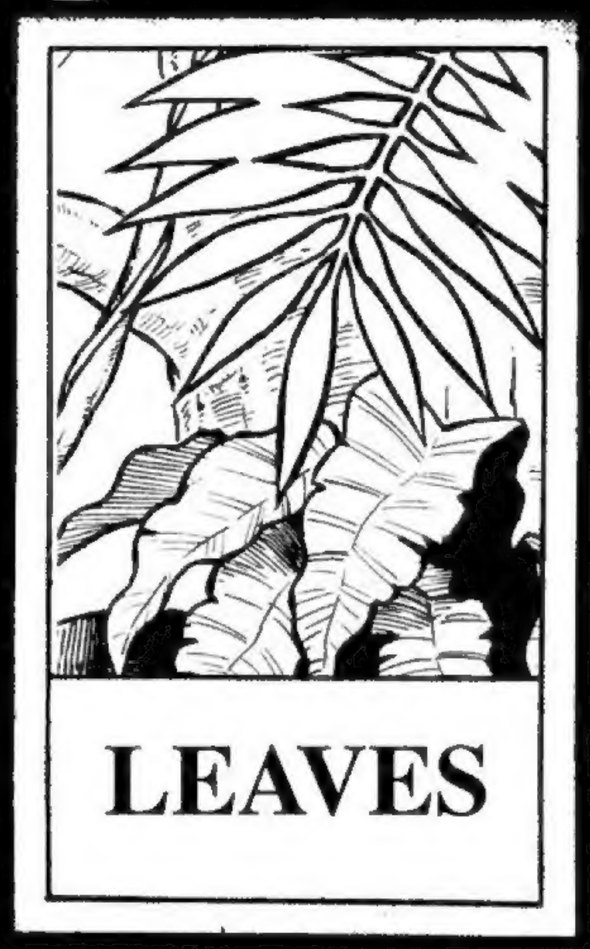
tatta

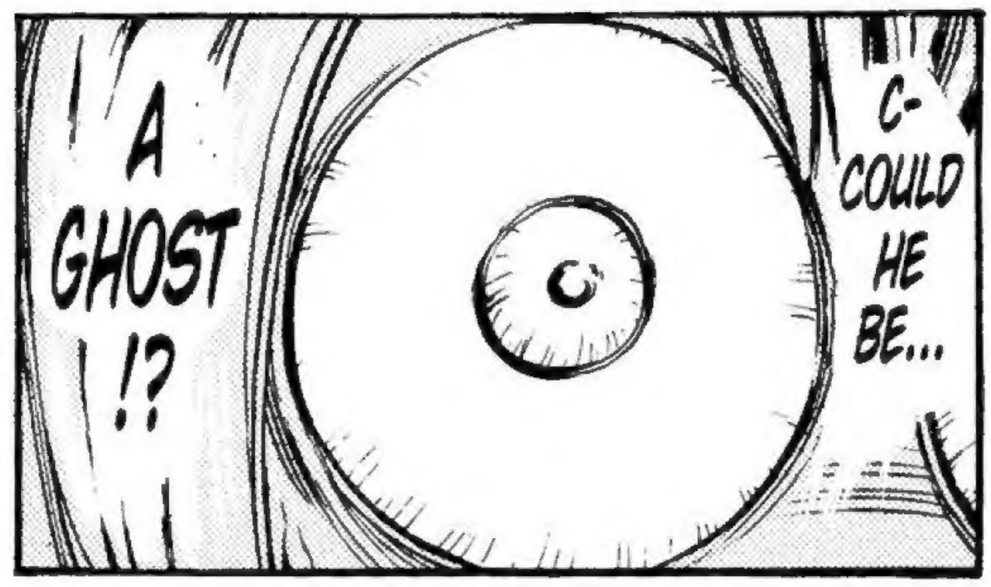
I'LL CUT THROUGH THE CEMETERY!

IT'S KINDA CREEPY, BUT I'LL RISK IT!

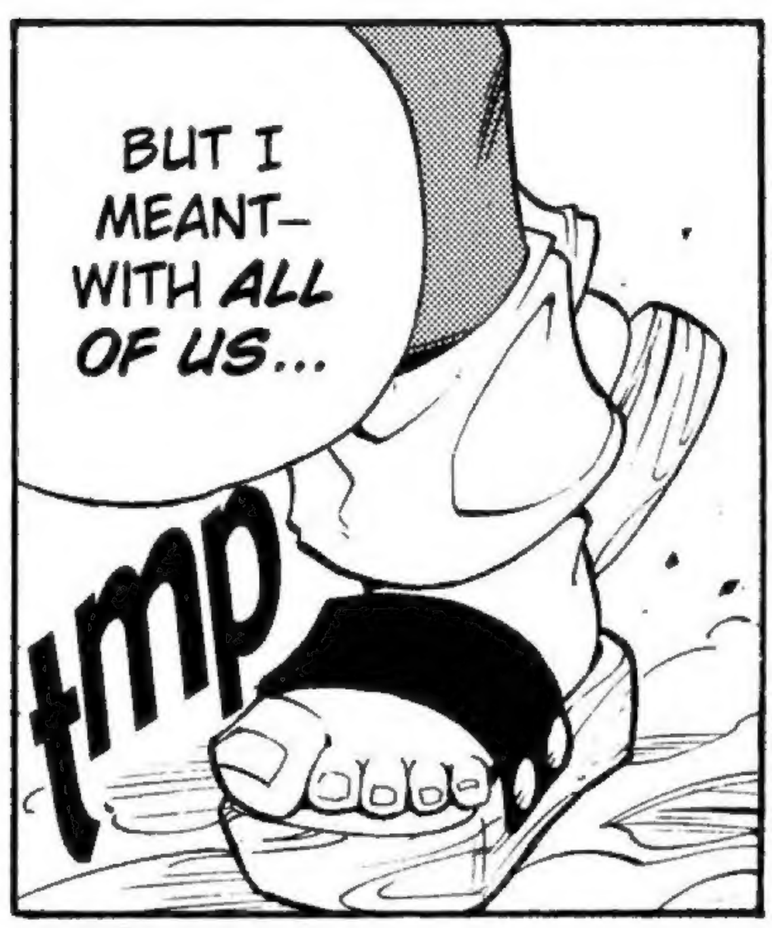
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE ALL ALONE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!?
WEIRD ...
南無阿弥

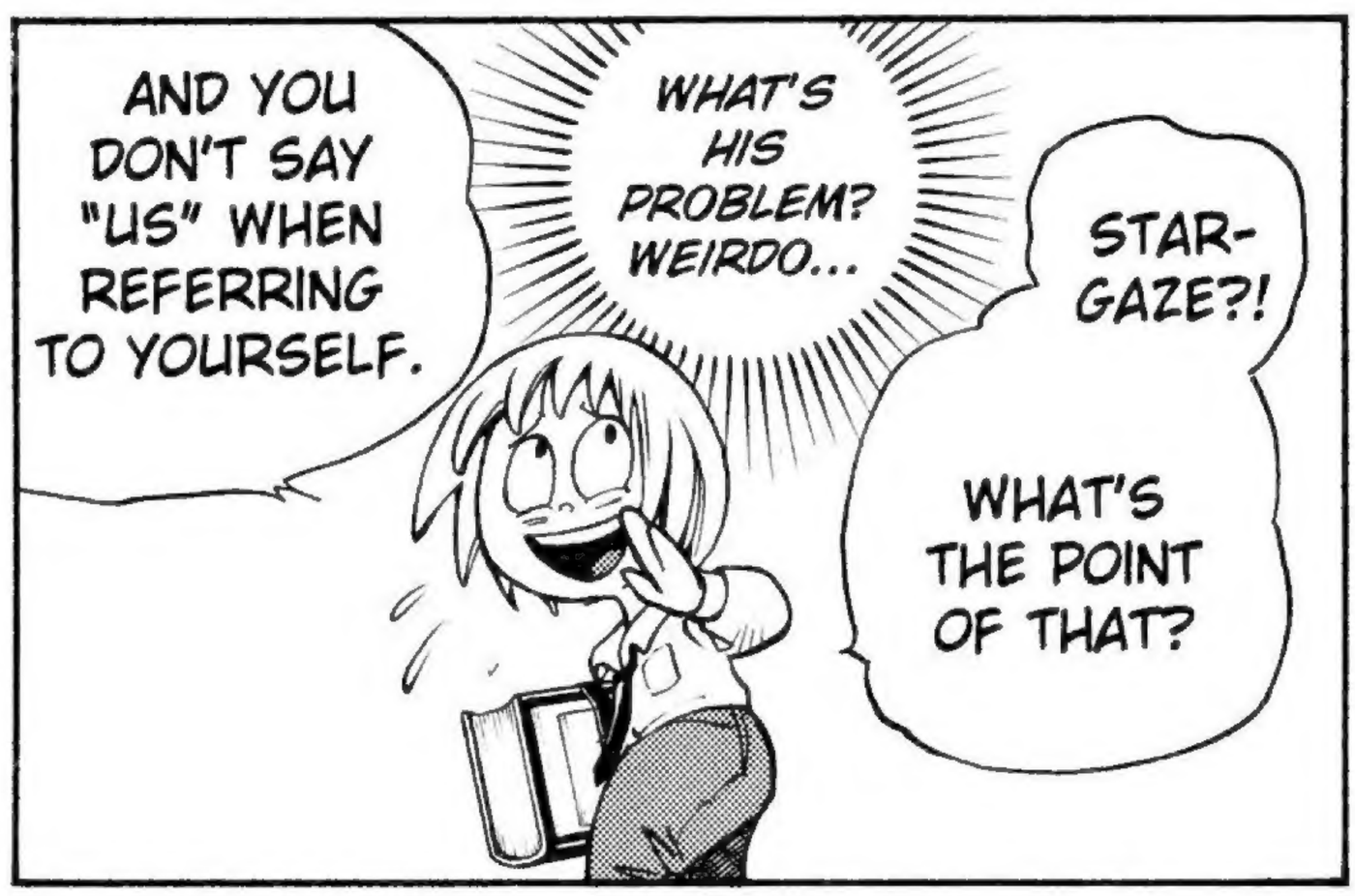
SHAMAN
KING
1





*Sign: Headstone Bridge



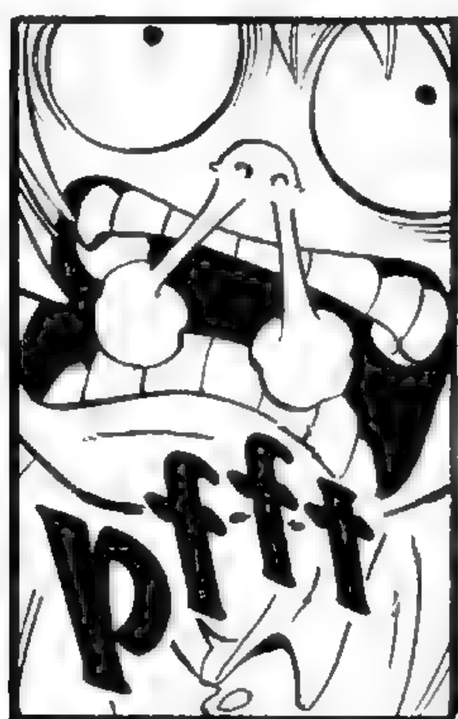


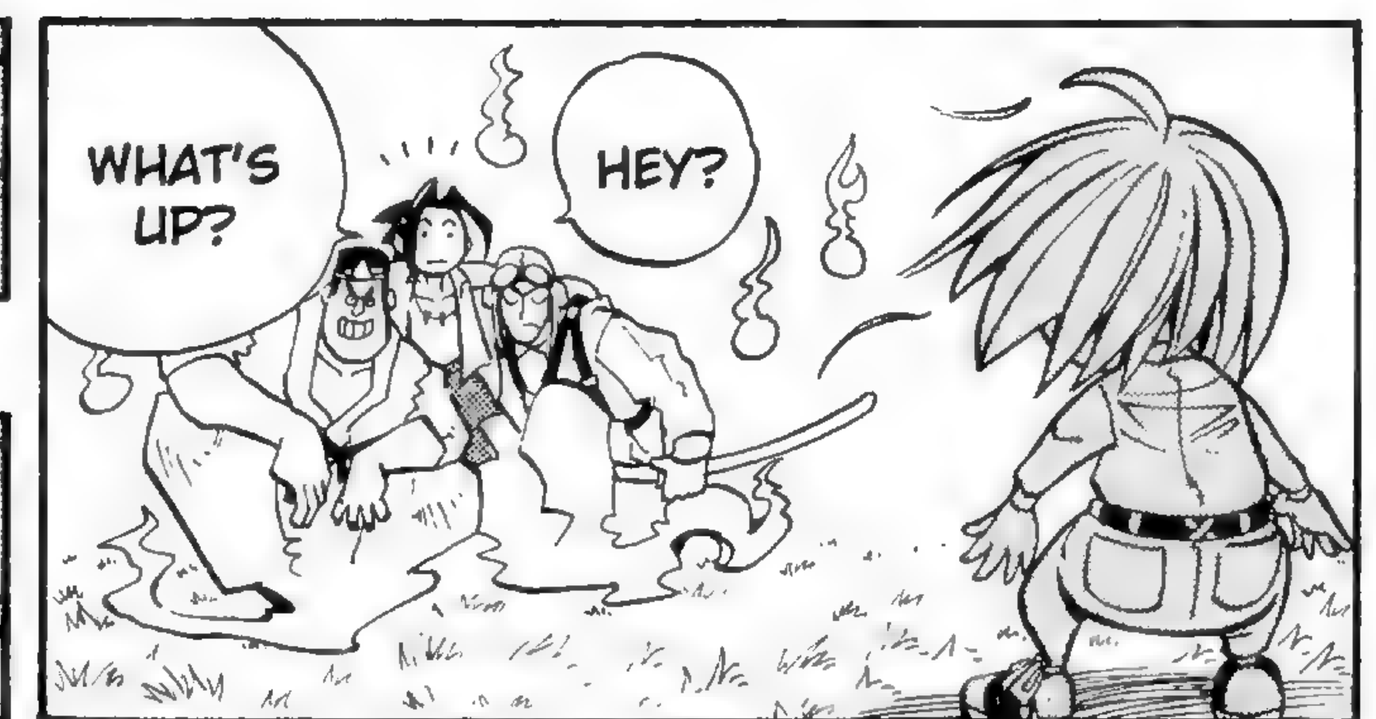
WOOO

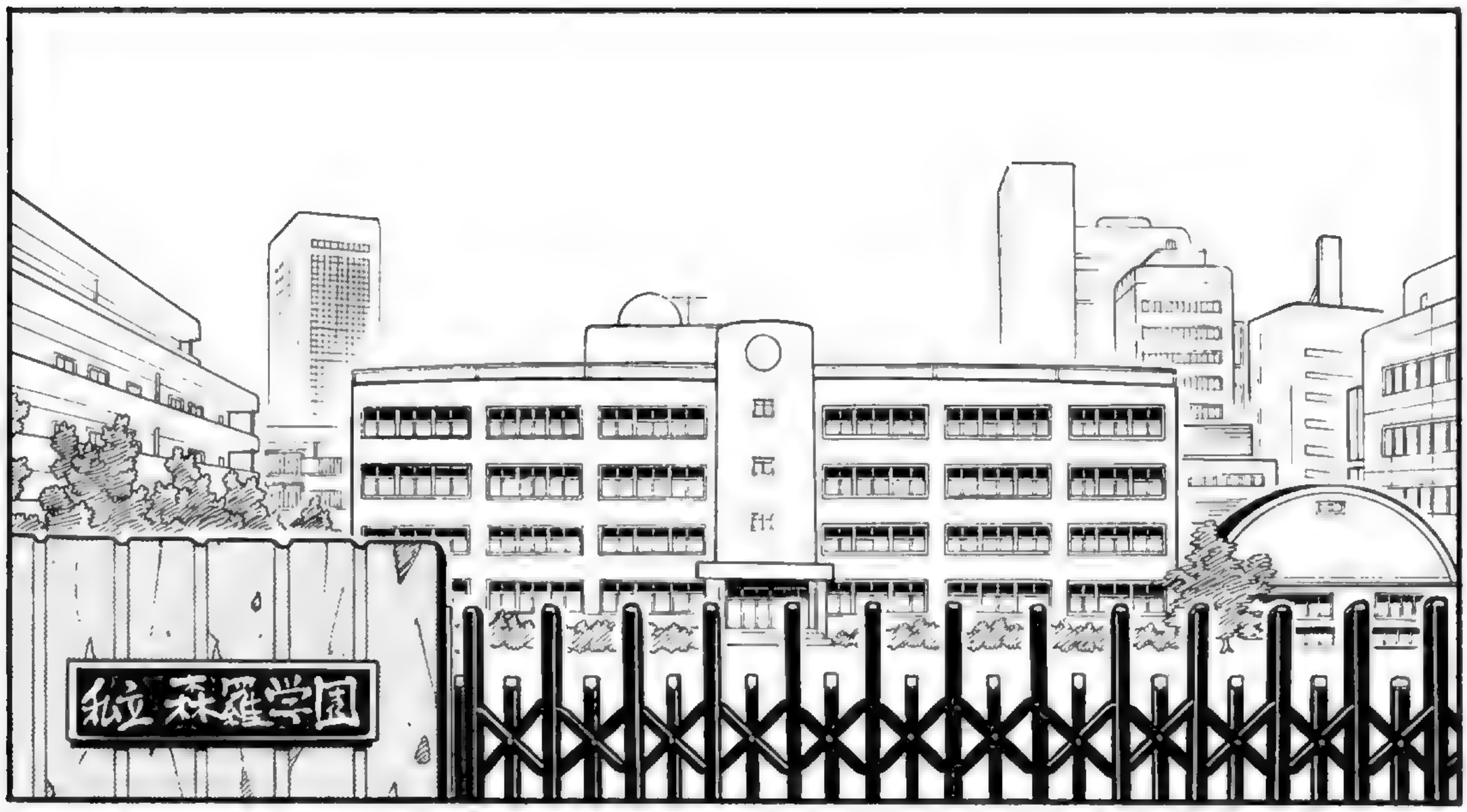
...THE WHOLE CEMETERY!

...EVEN IF THEY *ARE* A BUNCH OF BUMS WHO COULDN'T GET INTO HEAVEN.

TAKE IT EASY. THESE ARE MY FRIENDS...





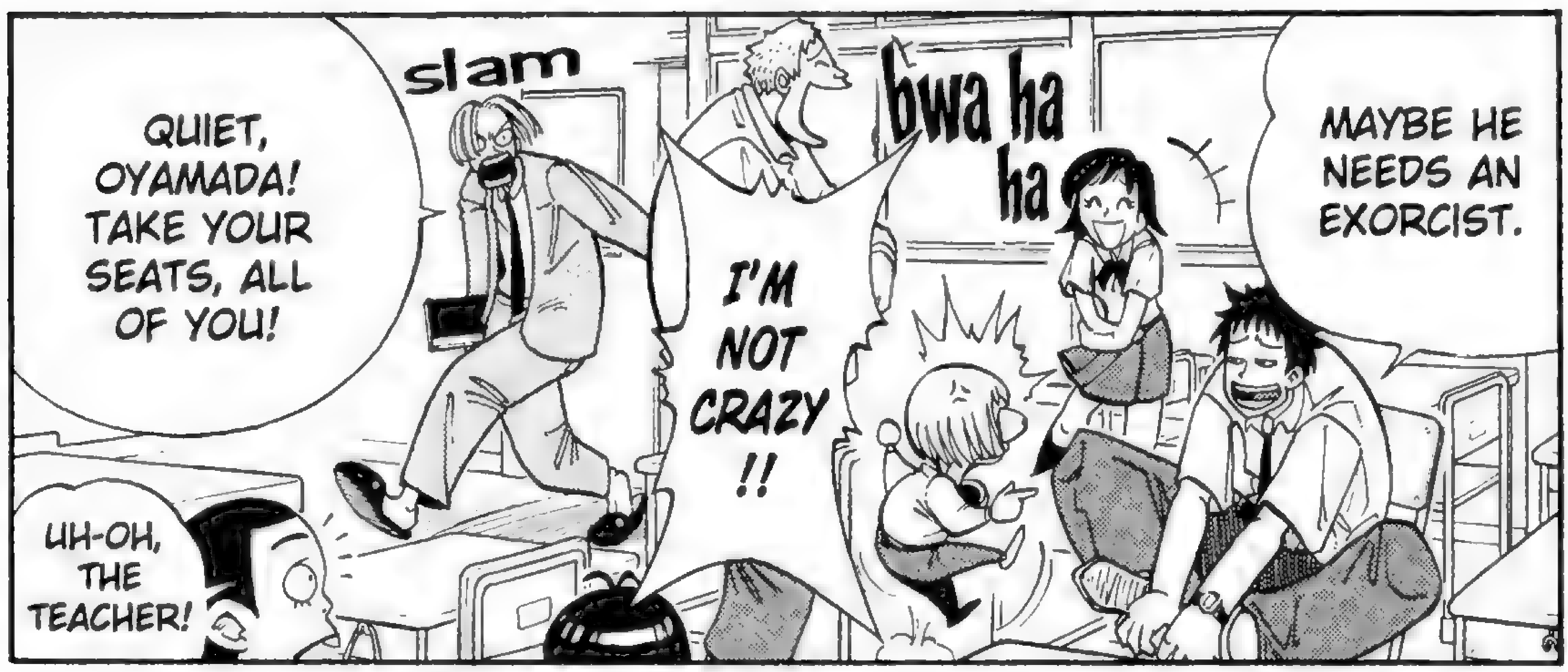


*Shinra Private Academy

ALL THAT CRAMMING HAS SCRAMBLED YOUR BRAIN.

YOU MUST'VE BEEN IMAGINING THINGS.

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS GHOSTS.


QUIET, OYAMADA! TAKE YOUR SEATS, ALL OF YOU!
slam
UH-OH, THE TEACHER!
I'M NOT CRAZY !!
bwa ha ha
MAYBE HE NEEDS AN EXORCIST.

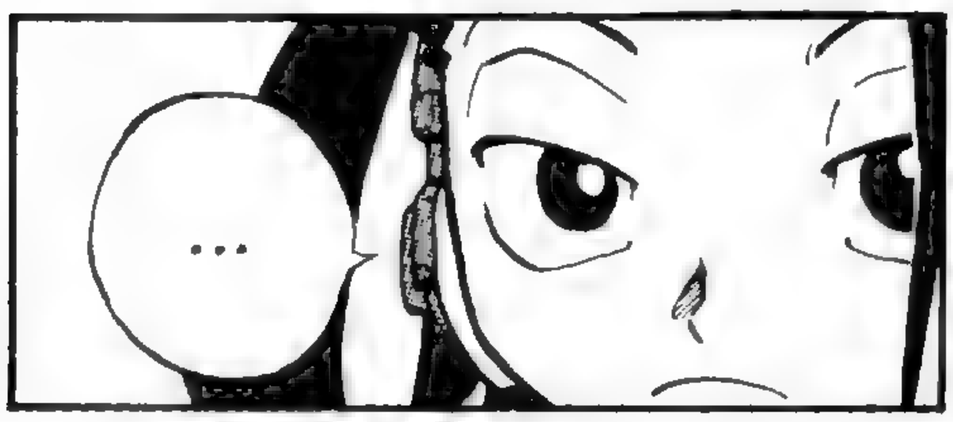
I WASN'T IMAGINING THINGS... WAS I? WAS IT ALL A DREAM?
fume
fume

WE HAVE A NEW STUDENT...

ha ha ha
CLASS, I'D LIKE EVERYONE'S ATTENTION...
blab blab yack yack
JERKS!

HIS NAME IS YOH ASAKURA.
WSS
WSS
FOR... FAMILY REASONS... YOH HAS MOVED HERE FROM IZUMO ALL BY HIMSELF.
SO I WANT YOU ALL TO HELP HIM ADJUST... UNDERSTOOD!?
WSS
I-I- IT'S HIM!
IT-
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE, OYAMADA!?

GHOST GUY!?
WHA
G...
WSS
WSS

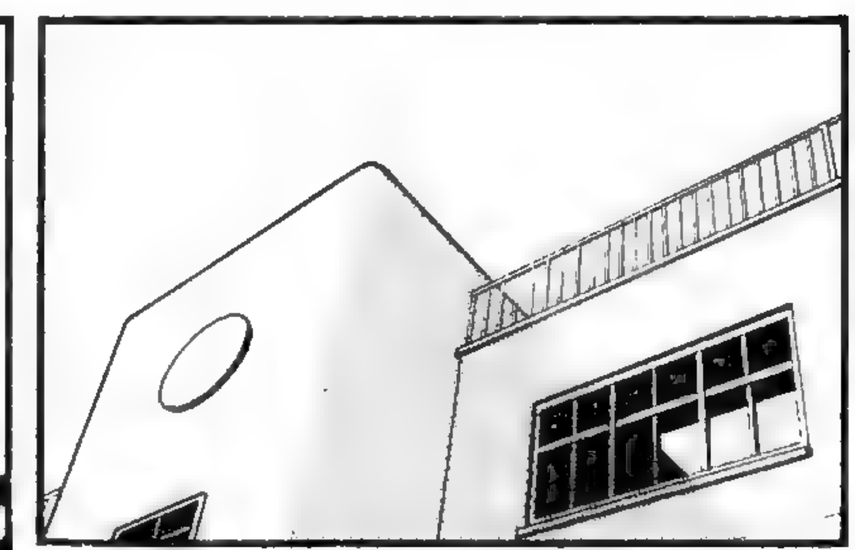

...

HE'S THE GHOST GUY!
YOU GUYS!

WHAT!?
wa ha
BWAM
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS GHOSTS.
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE IN MY LIFE.

IT WAS HIM! HE'S PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW ME! I WANT TO QUESTION HIM BUT...!
BUT I CAN'T BECAUSE ...!

NO!!
YOU HEARD WHAT HE SAID. YOU WERE OUT OF YOUR HEAD LAST NIGHT.



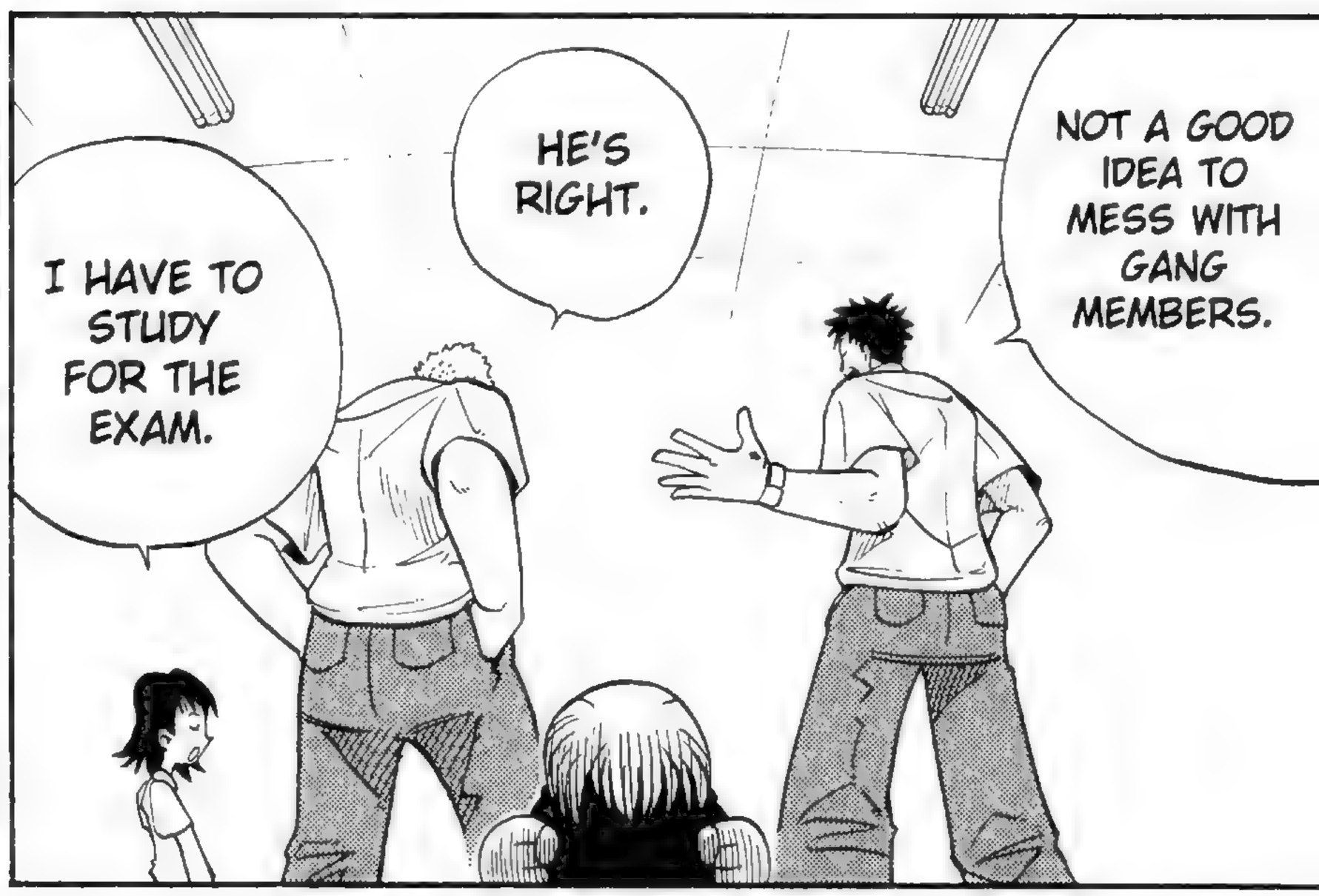
Moo Moo MILK
LET IT GO, MANTA.

BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO FREAK OUT ON HIM.
MAYBE HE IS A WEIRDO...
SLURP

DOES HE THINK HE'S GOD!!?
aaagh
HE'S SLEEPING IN CLASS! ON HIS FIRST DAY!!
CALM DOWN.

HE COULD BE ONE OF THEM.
THE BANSHO HIGH PUNKS HANG OUT IN THAT CEMETERY.
BESIDES, MANTA...

I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS!


I HAVE TO STUDY FOR THE EXAM.
HE'S RIGHT.
NOT A GOOD IDEA TO MESS WITH GANG MEMBERS.

READ THIS WAY

I'LL EXPOSE HIM IF IT KILLS ME!

TSUNAYA

IN→

FFP

BUT I'LL MAKE HIM SWEAT!

HE THINKS HE'S SO COOL!

WHO WEARS SANDALS TO SCHOOL, ANYWAY?

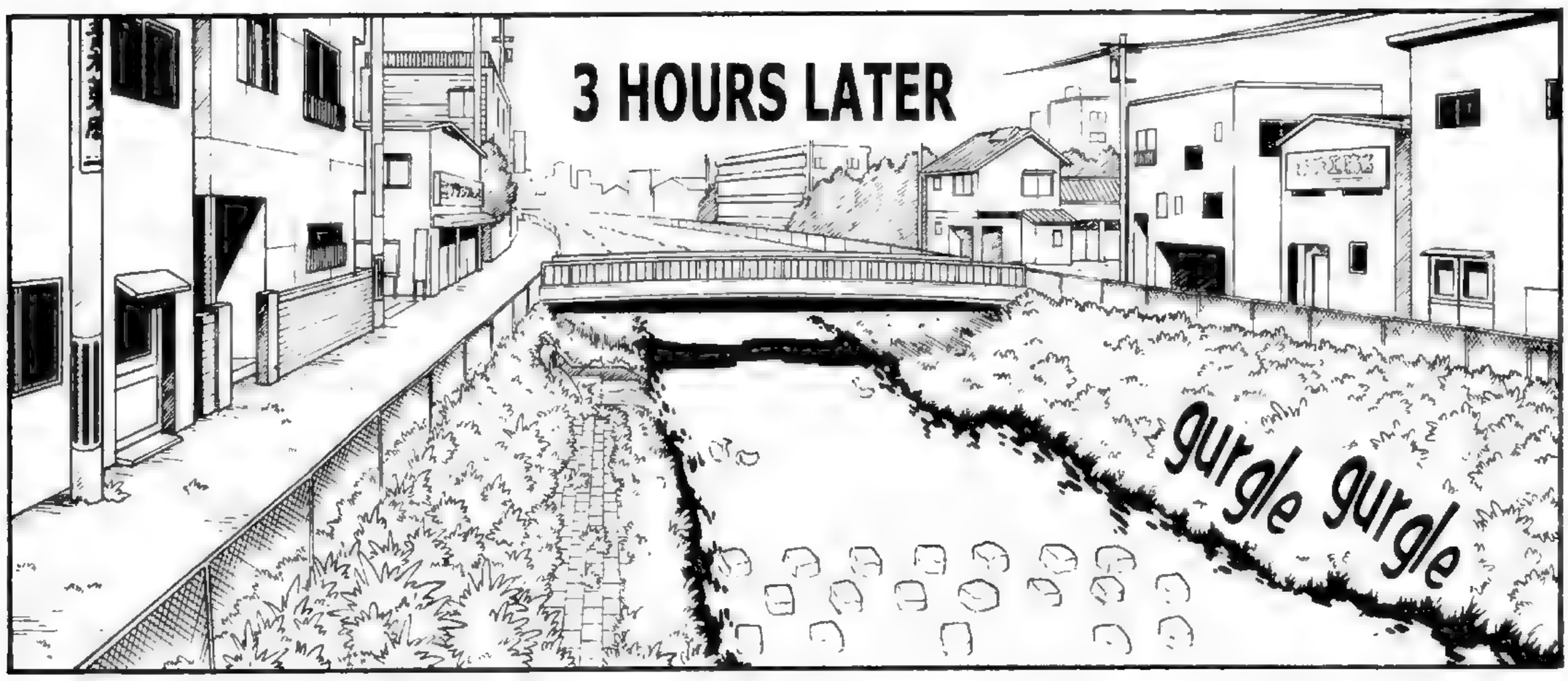
klak klak

I'LL FOLLOW HIM UNTIL I'VE GOT ALL THE EVIDENCE I NEED!

FIRST THINGS FIRST!

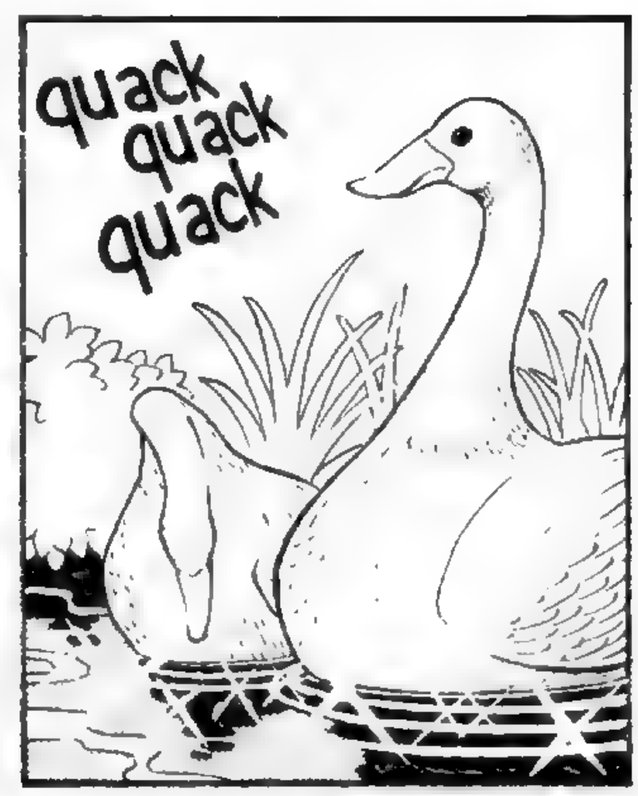
FFP

HEH HEH... JUST YOU WAIT!


3 HOURS LATER
gurgle gurgle

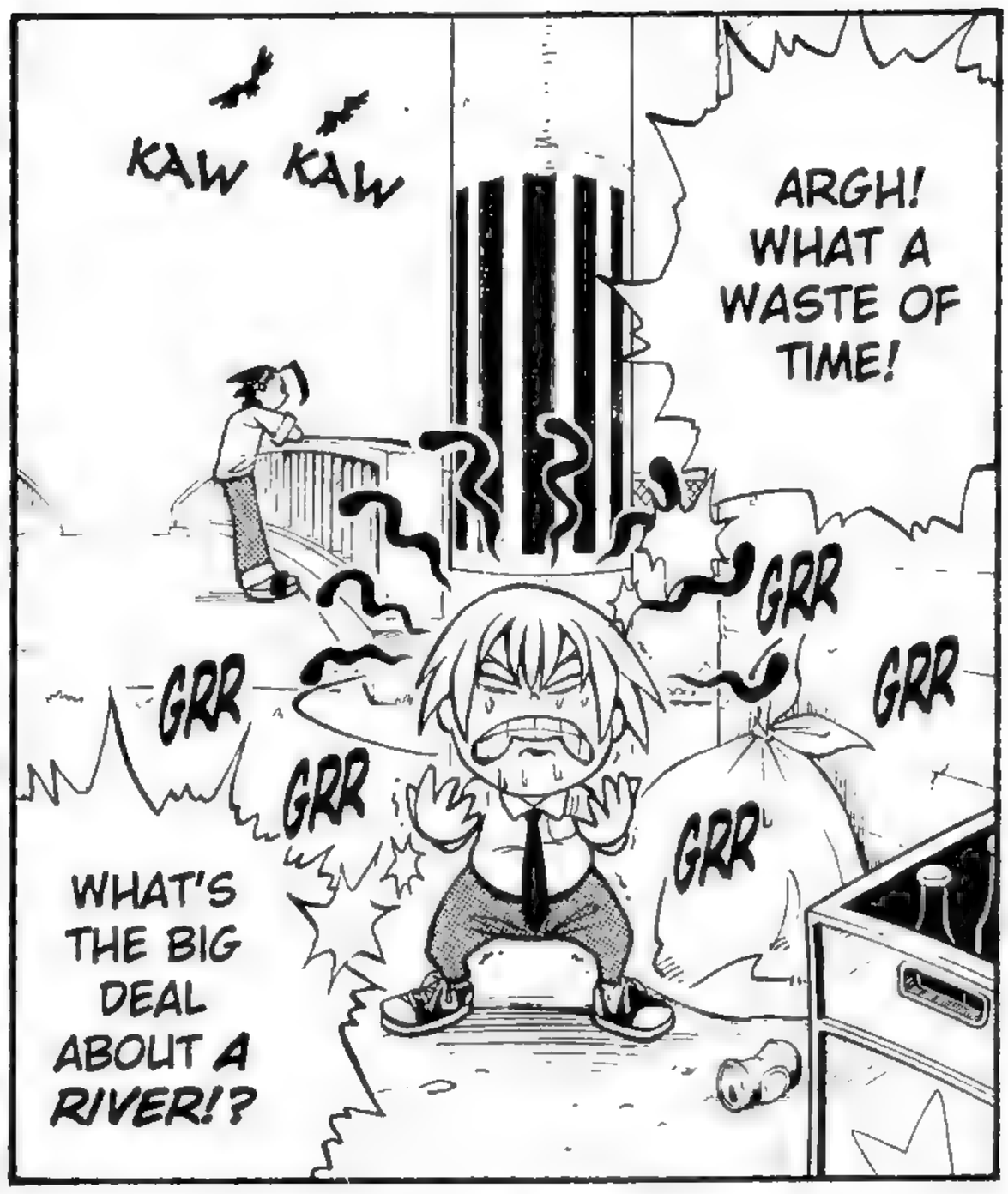
NUT JOB!
GRR...

...

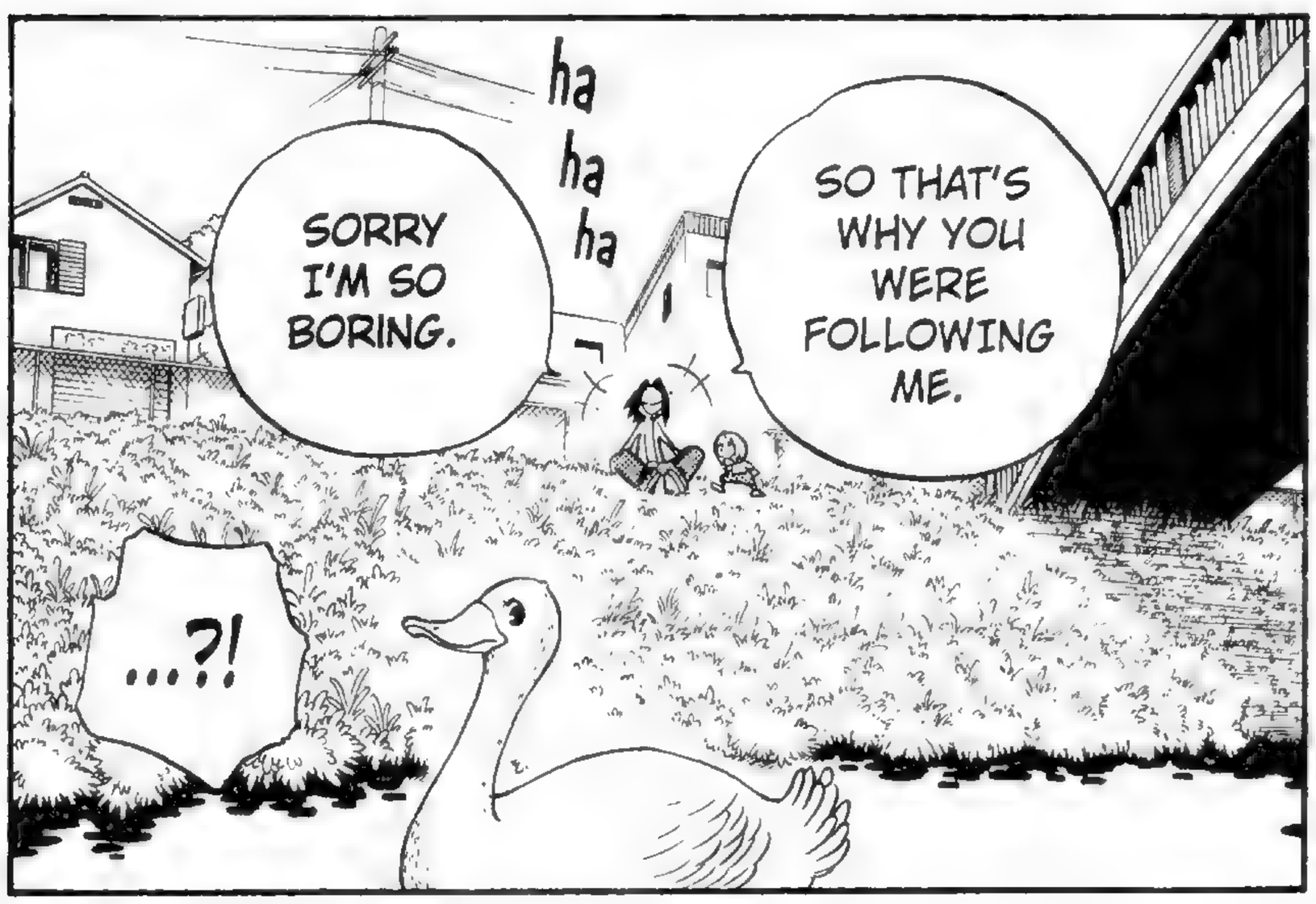

quack quack quack

...IS HE GONNA STAND THERE STARING!!?
dum-dee-dum
HOW MUCH LONGER ...

NATURE!
?
COMMUNING WITH NATURE IS FUN!
ahhh!

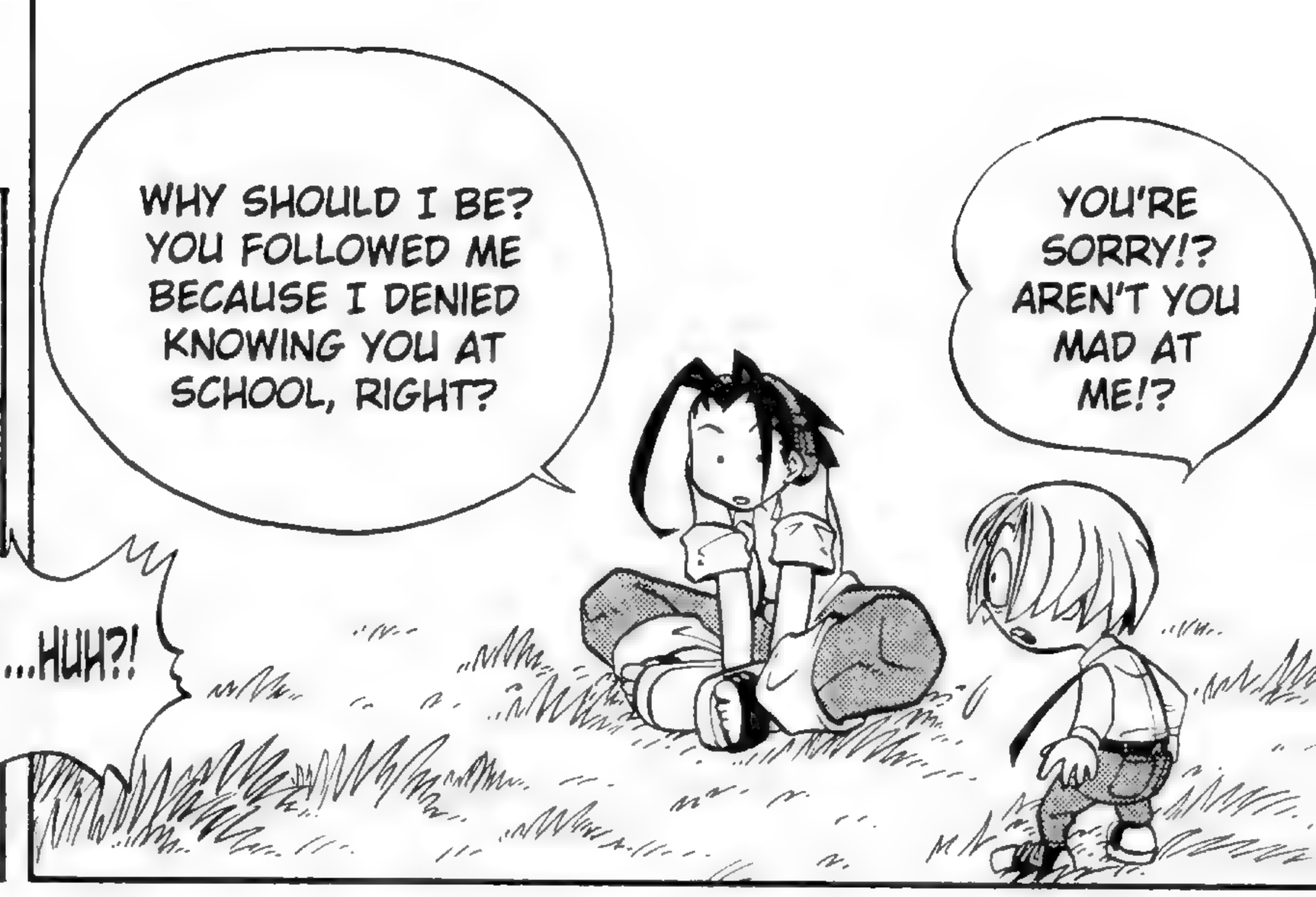

KAW KAW
ARGH! WHAT A WASTE OF TIME!
GRR
GRR
GRR
GRR
GRR
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT A RIVER!?

GAH!
DARNIT! I BLEW MY COVER!
gack
HUH?


ha ha ha
SORRY I'M SO BORING.
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE FOLLOWING ME.
...?!

OH...

AHA! SO YOU WERE FAKING IT!

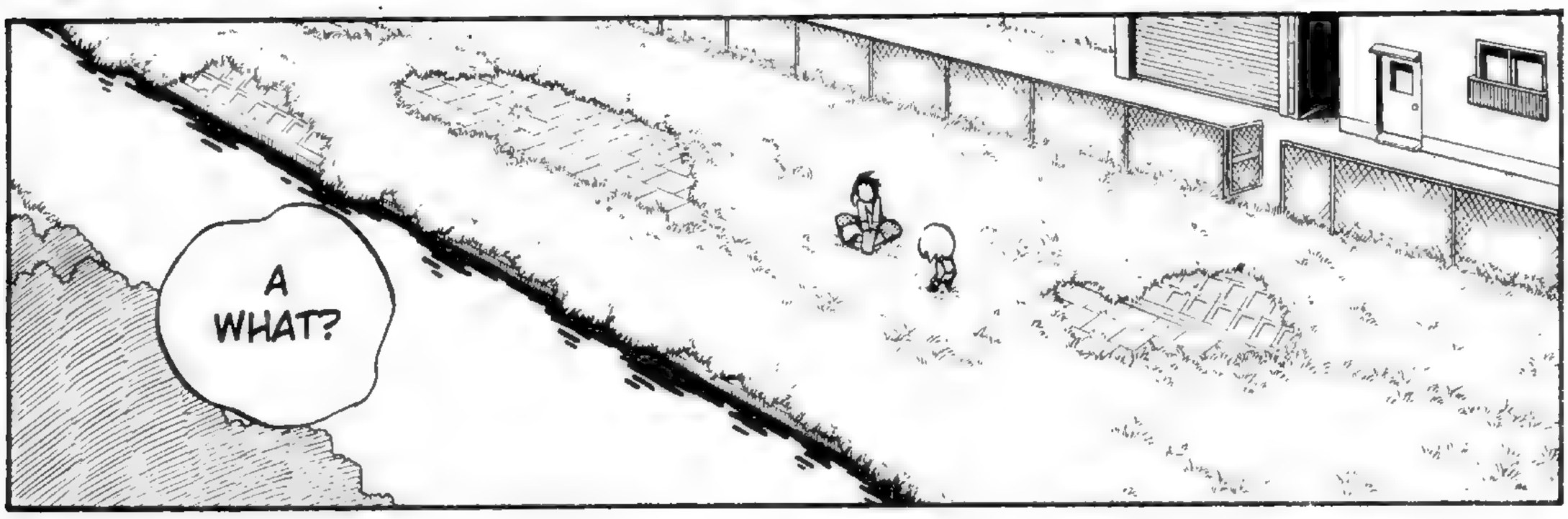

WHY SHOULD I BE? YOU FOLLOWED ME BECAUSE I DENIED KNOWING YOU AT SCHOOL, RIGHT?
YOU'RE SORRY!? AREN'T YOU MAD AT ME!?
...HUH?!

...EVERYONE WILL DRIVE ME CRAZY.
LOOK, IF MY SECRET GETS OUT AT SCHOOL...
HEH HEH HEH.

SECRET!?

...

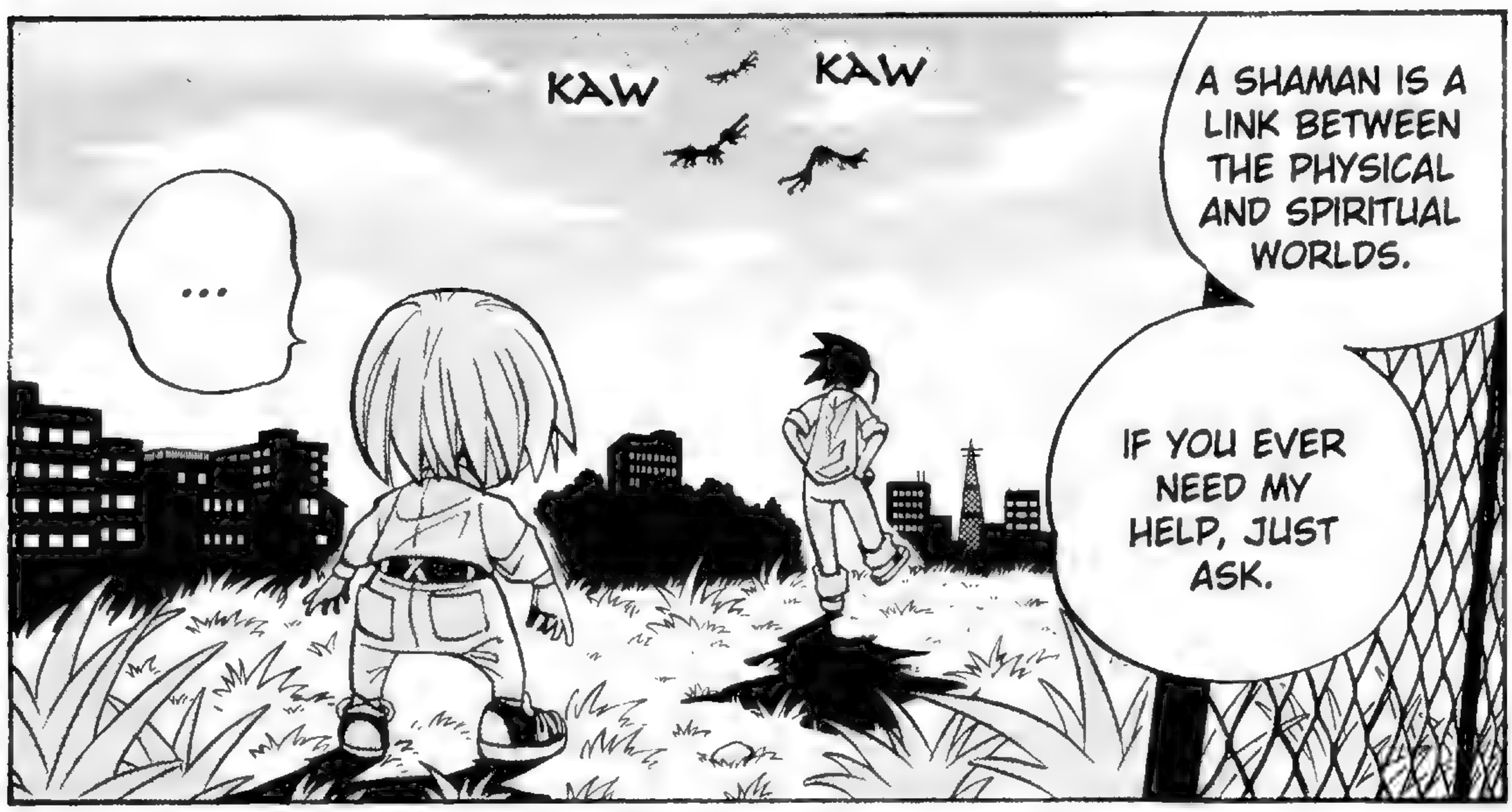
YEAH, I CAME HERE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING.
I'M A SHAMAN.

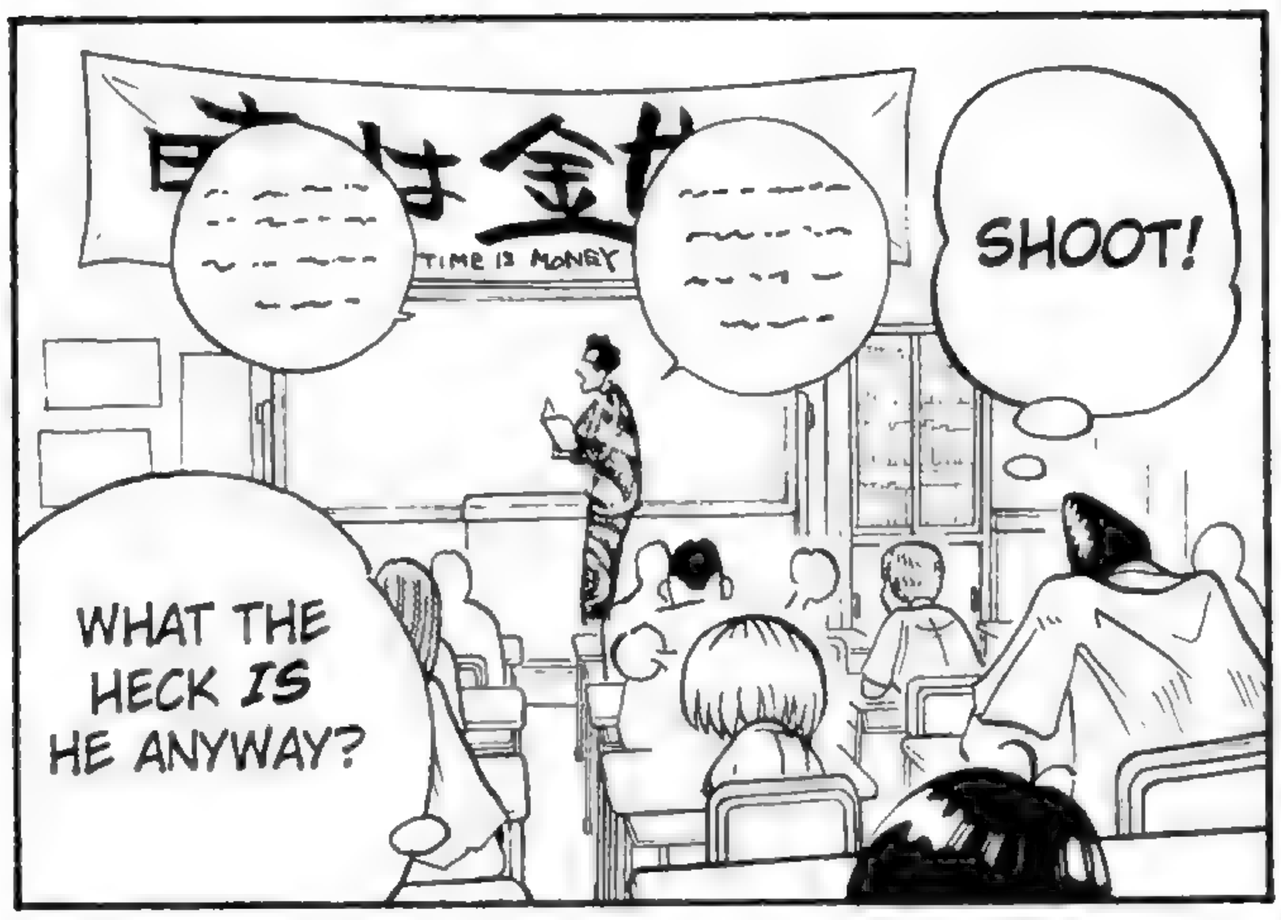

A WHAT?

?!
IF IT'S A SECRET, WHY IS HE BLABBING TO ME!?
?!
?!
DIDN'T HE JUST GIVE IT AWAY!?

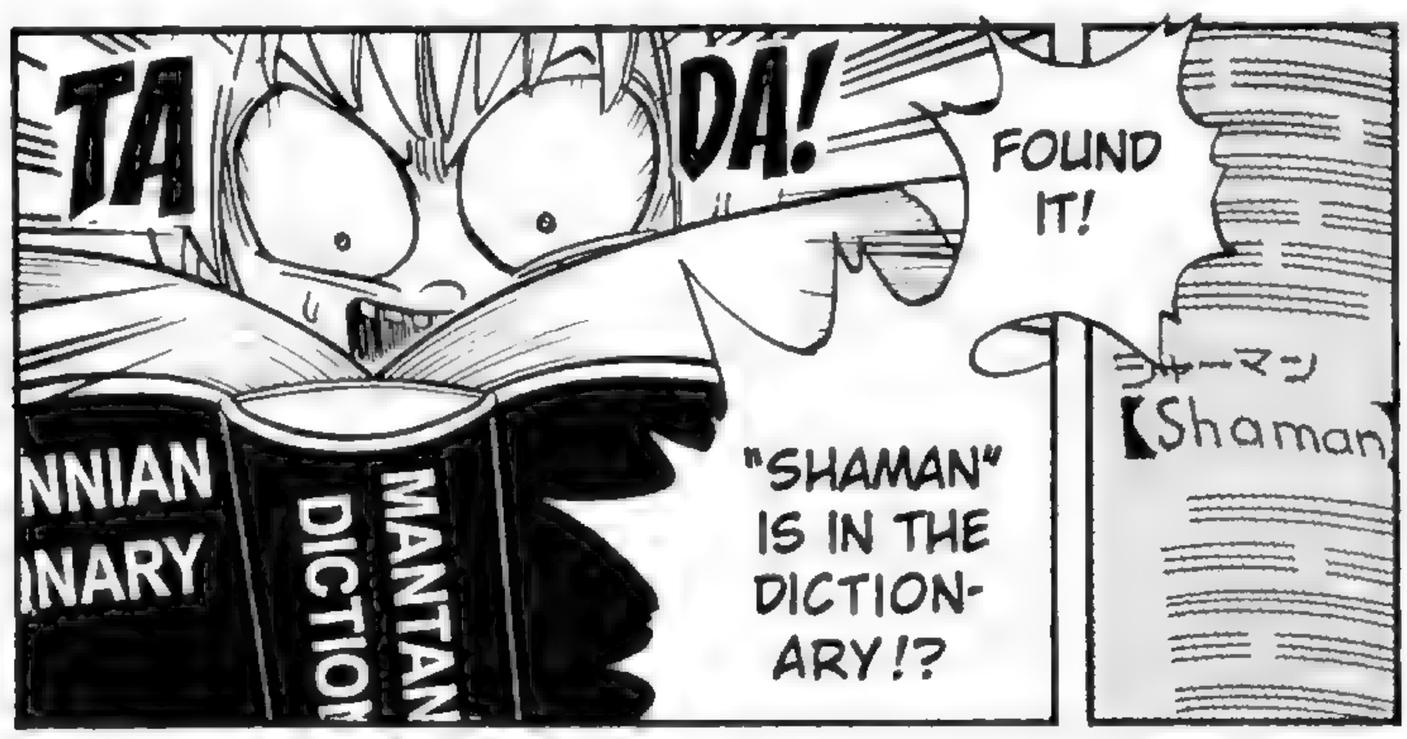
WHAT'S A SHAMAN!? WAIT A MINUTE!
A SHAMAN?

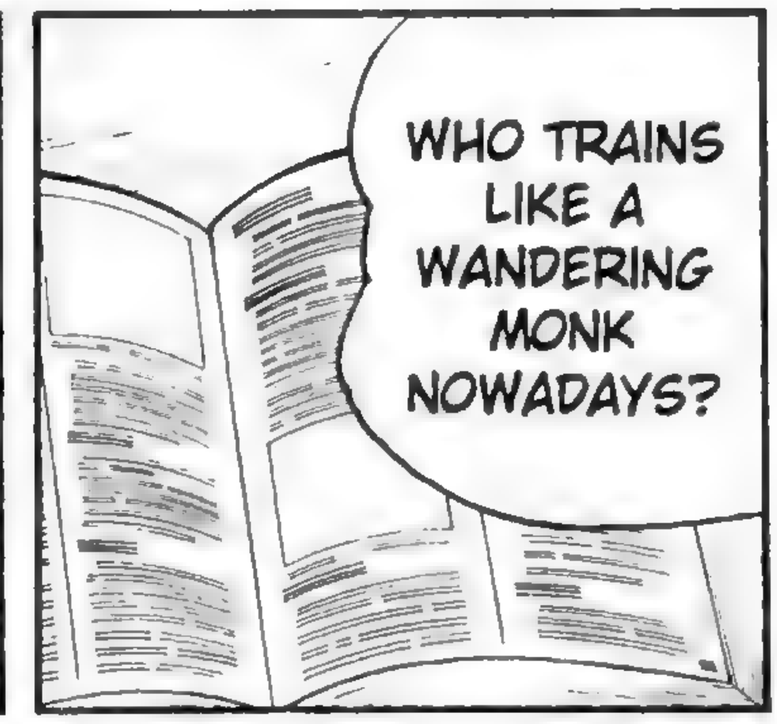
HA HA HA...


KAW
KAW
A SHAMAN IS A LINK BETWEEN THE PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL WORLDS.
...
IF YOU EVER NEED MY HELP, JUST ASK.



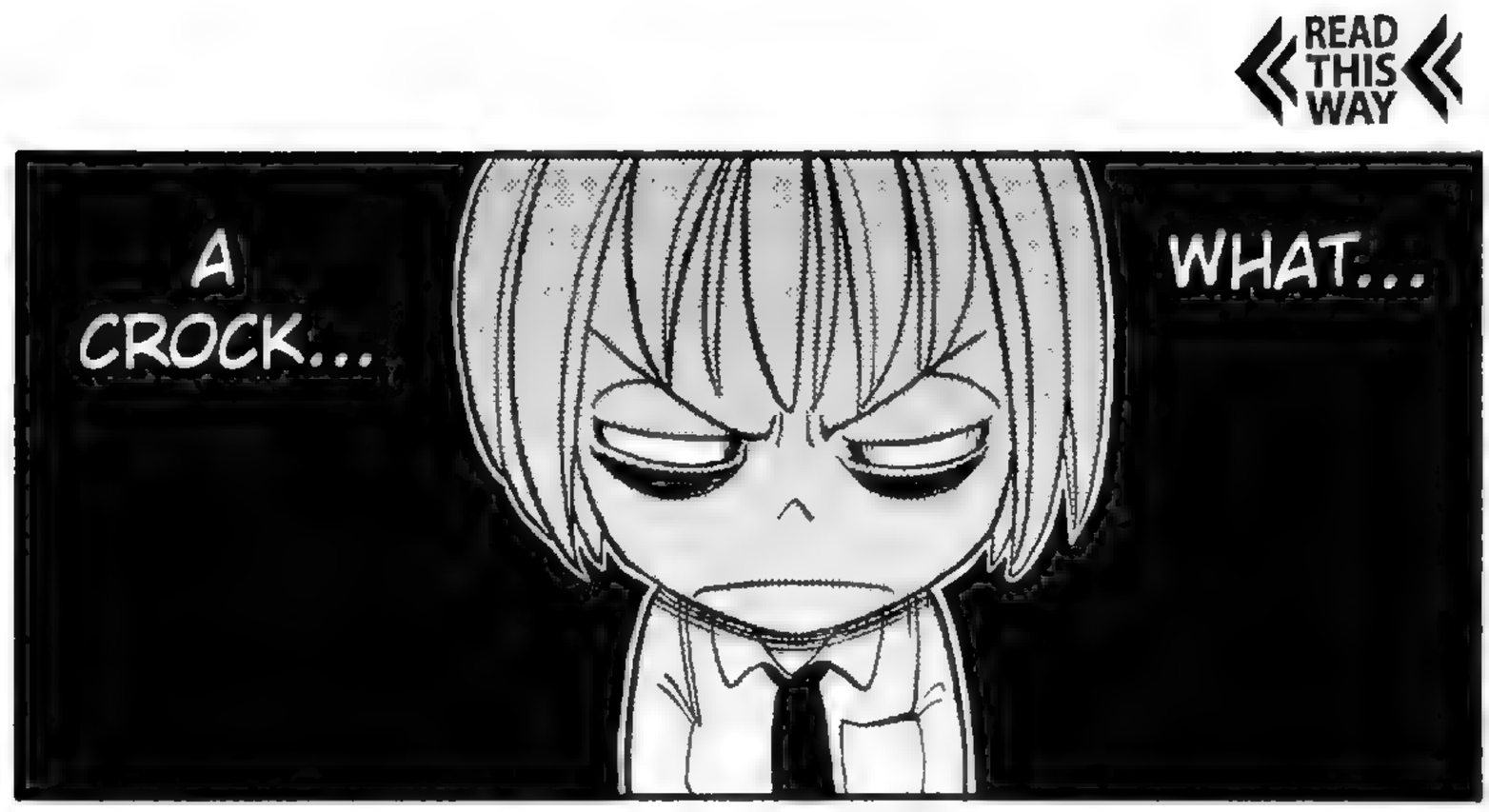
*Koike Cram School





SHAMANS ACT AS MEDICINE MEN...
ENTERING A SPECIAL TRANCE TO BORROW THESE SPIRITS' POWERS,

...GUIDES...
IN ANCIENT TIMES, THEY WERE THE CENTERS OF SOCIETY, AND STILL ARE IN SOME CULTURES TODAY.
...OR MEDIUMS, FORMING LINKS BETWEEN THE PHYSICAL AND THE SPIRITUAL WORLDS.


READ THIS WAY
A CROCK...
WHAT...

...
fwump
MANTANIAN DICTIONARY

WACK
MANTA OYA-MADA!
OOF!

GHOSTS AND SPIRITS! IN THIS DAY AND AGE...
HMPH! SO BASICALLY THEY'RE CONMEN WHO MESS AROUND WITH SPIRITS?

...YA-MADA?
...OYA-MADA!
BUT I SAW THEM MYSELF... NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
arrg

I...
Second place is for losers!
I'M SORRY...

THIS SCHOOL IS FOR WINNERS... NOT SPACE CADETS!
OW!
YOUNG MAN...
IF YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STARGAZE, GO HOME AND DO IT. AND DON'T COME BACK.
Koike Cram School

ふんばりが丘
Funbari Hill
東南南久留米 保々谷

THIS IS ALL YOH'S FAULT!

HE DIDN'T HAVE TO BE SO HARSH!

SHEESH.

JUST LISTENS TO MUSIC AND STARES AT THE RIVER AND THE STARS!

NEVER STUDIES!

PROBABLY SLACKS OFF ALL DAY!

hmph

HE HAS THE EASY LIFE, BEING A SHAMAN OR WHATEVER!

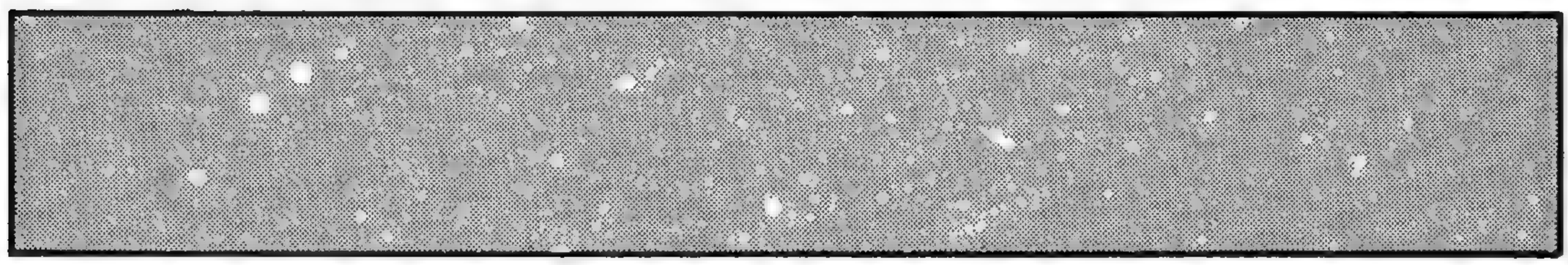
I WISH I COULD DO THAT...

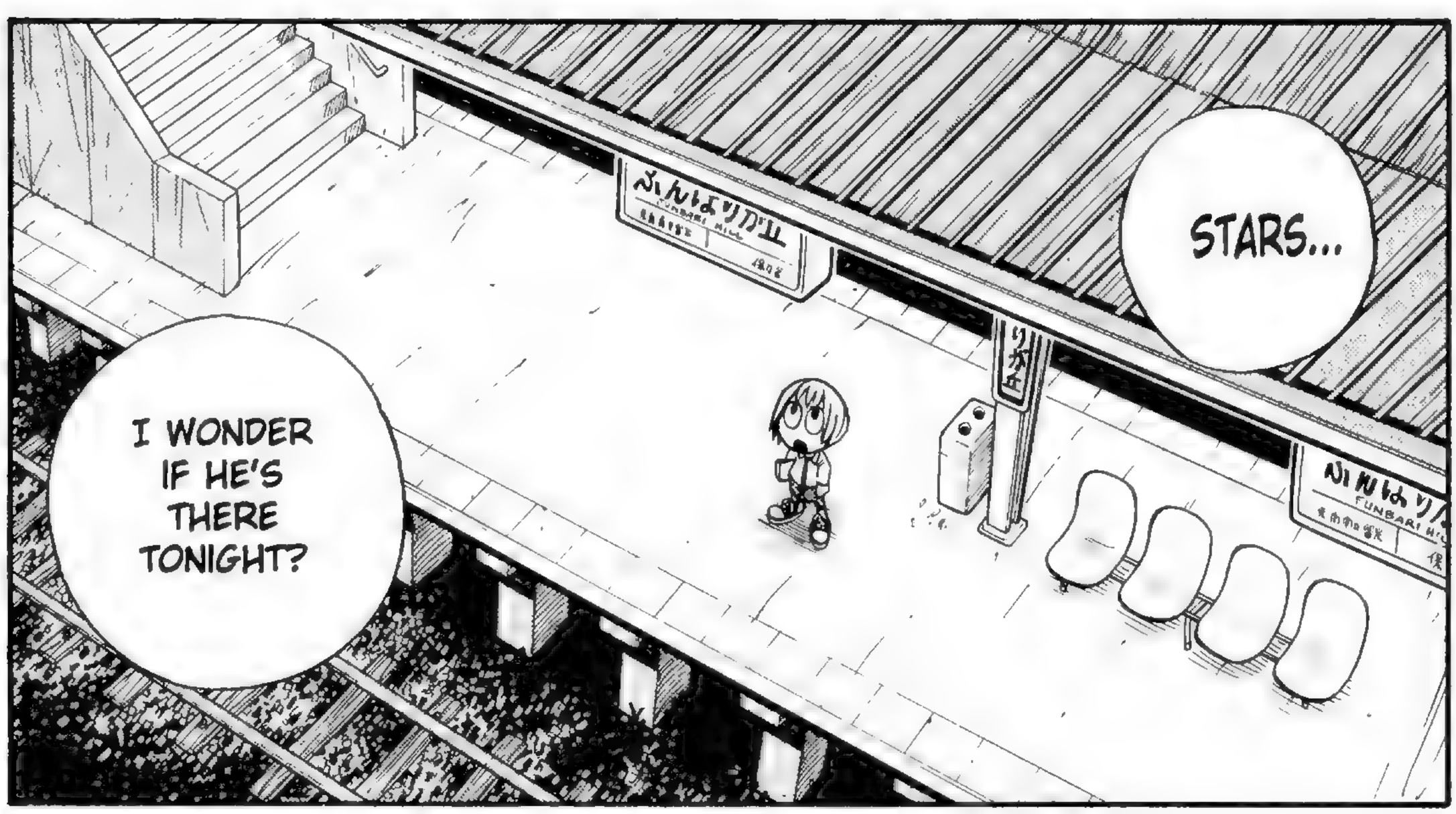
...

Last train! All aboard!
BUT STARGAZING WON'T GET YOU FAR IN THE REAL WORLD.
-SIGH- IT'S SO DEPRESSING...

klacketa klack

sigh




STARS...
I WONDER IF HE'S THERE TONIGHT?

RYU'S REALLY PICKY ABOUT HIS CRIB, EH?

HOW'D YOU FIND SUCH A COOL PLACE?

HEH HEH HEH

WE CAN DO WHAT-EVER WE WANT!

IT'S CLOSE TO THE ZIP-E-MART... AND THE *NEIGHBORS* NEVER COMPLAIN!

MAYBE HE JUST LIKES HIS PRIVACY.

Krash !!! eek!

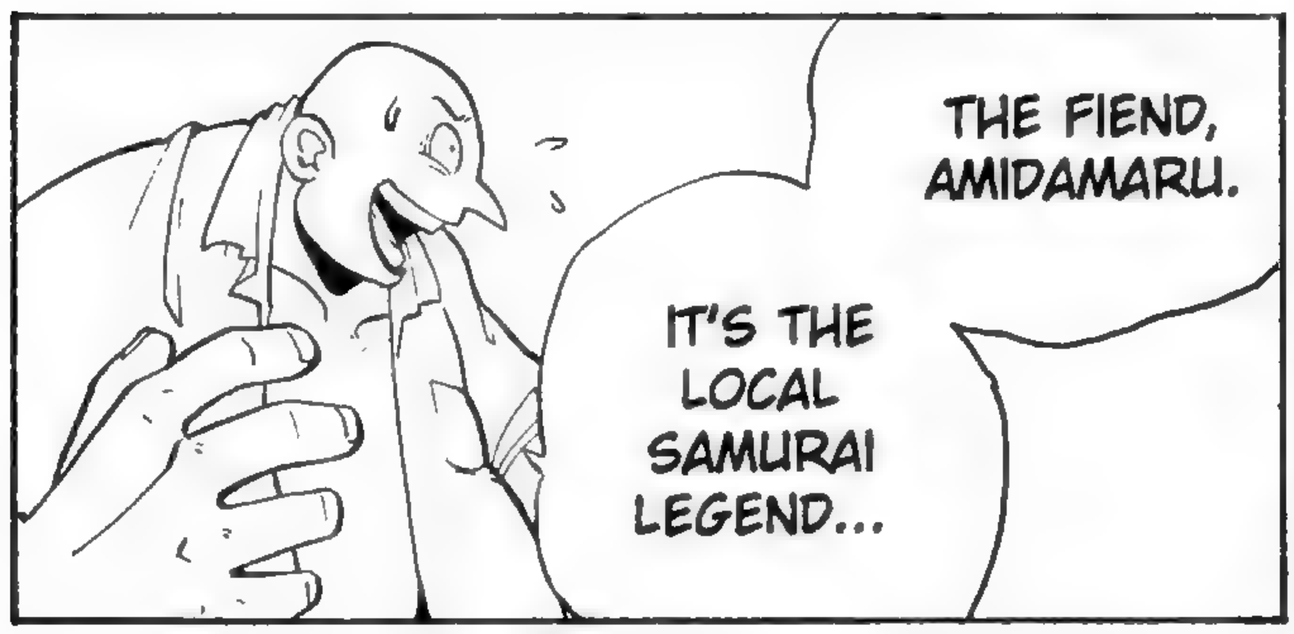
BUT I HEAR SOME KIDS HAVE BEEN SNEAKING AROUND LATELY.

NOT GOOD. IF RYU FINDS OUT...

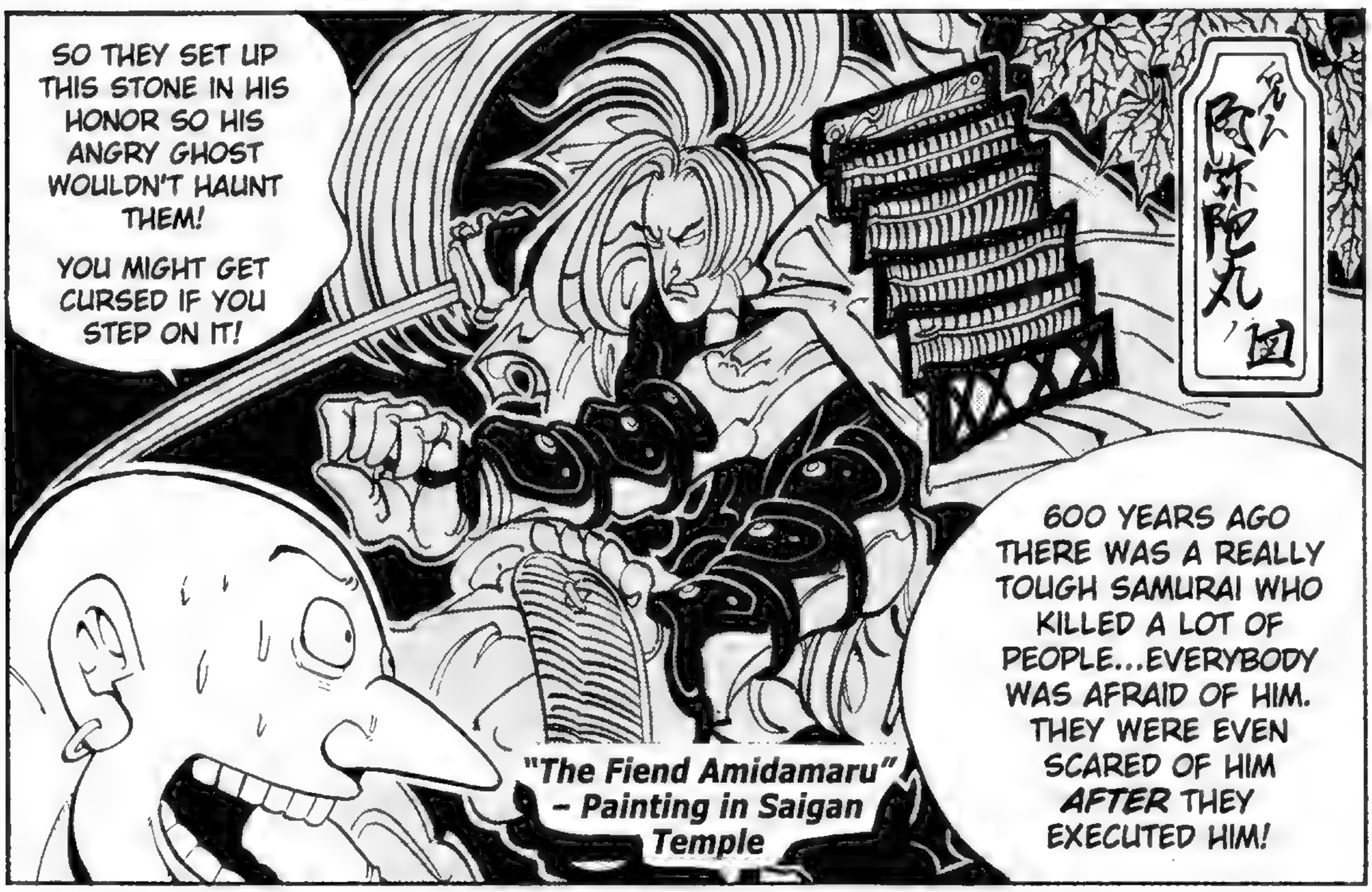
YOW...

WHO'S BEEN TRESPASSING IN MY HAPPY PLACE?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
rmmb rmmb
klomp
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TEACH 'EM SOME RESPECT FOR "WOODEN SWORD" RYU!
fshoo
RYU!
fwip
WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?!
UM, RYU?
fwop
WHAT IS IT, BALL BOY?
JUST NOW.

AMIDA-MARU? WHO OR WHAT IS THAT?
?


THE FIEND, AMIDAMARU.
IT'S THE LOCAL SAMURAI LEGEND...

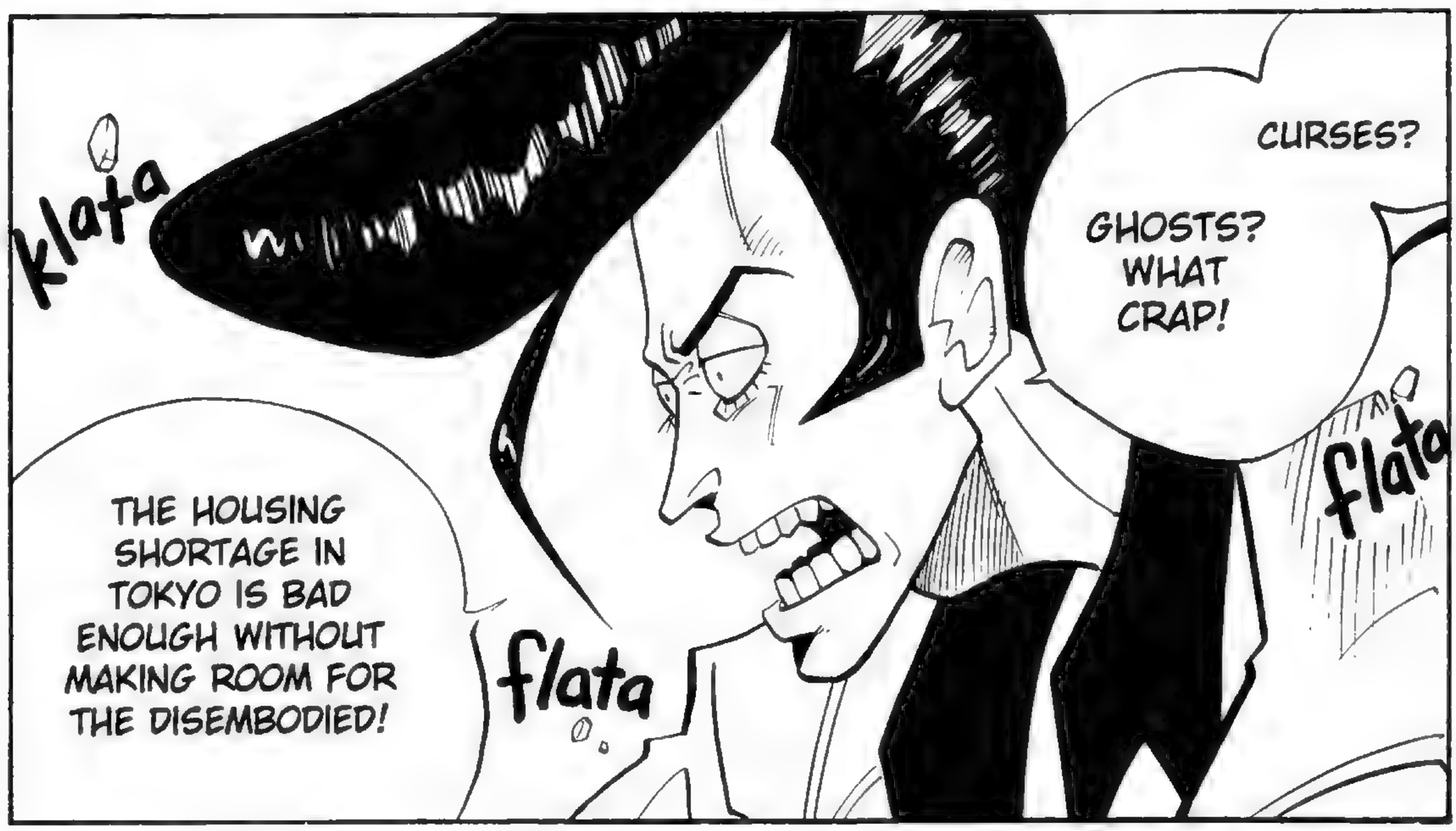
THAT'S AMIDA-MARU'S GRAVE!
TH-THAT GRAVE!


SO THEY SET UP THIS STONE IN HIS HONOR SO HIS ANGRY GHOST WOULDN'T HAUNT THEM!
YOU MIGHT GET CURSED IF YOU STEP ON IT!
600 YEARS AGO THERE WAS A REALLY TOUGH SAMURAI WHO KILLED A LOT OF PEOPLE...EVERYBODY WAS AFRAID OF HIM. THEY WERE EVEN SCARED OF HIM *AFTER* THEY EXECUTED HIM!
"The Fiend Amidamaru" – Painting in Saigan Temple

HUH?

CURSED, EH?

*Bokuto=wooden sword—Editor



HA HA HA! PITIFUL!

SEE, DEAD PEOPLE CAN'T HURT YOU!

klink-klink

gasp

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE MEANS BUT... HE'S SCARY!

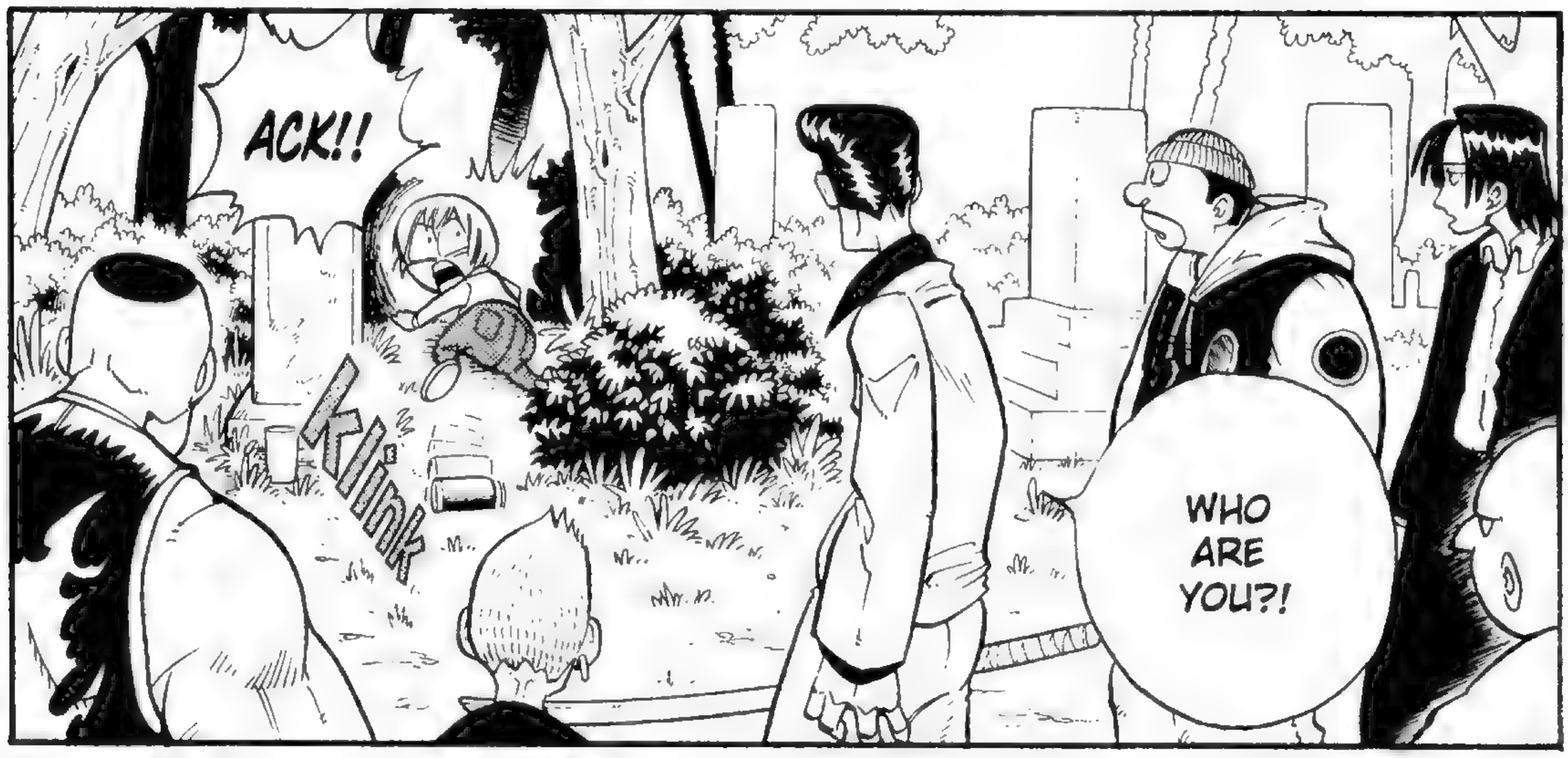
ATTENTION GHOSTS! COME OUT AND... *HAUNT US!*

gasp

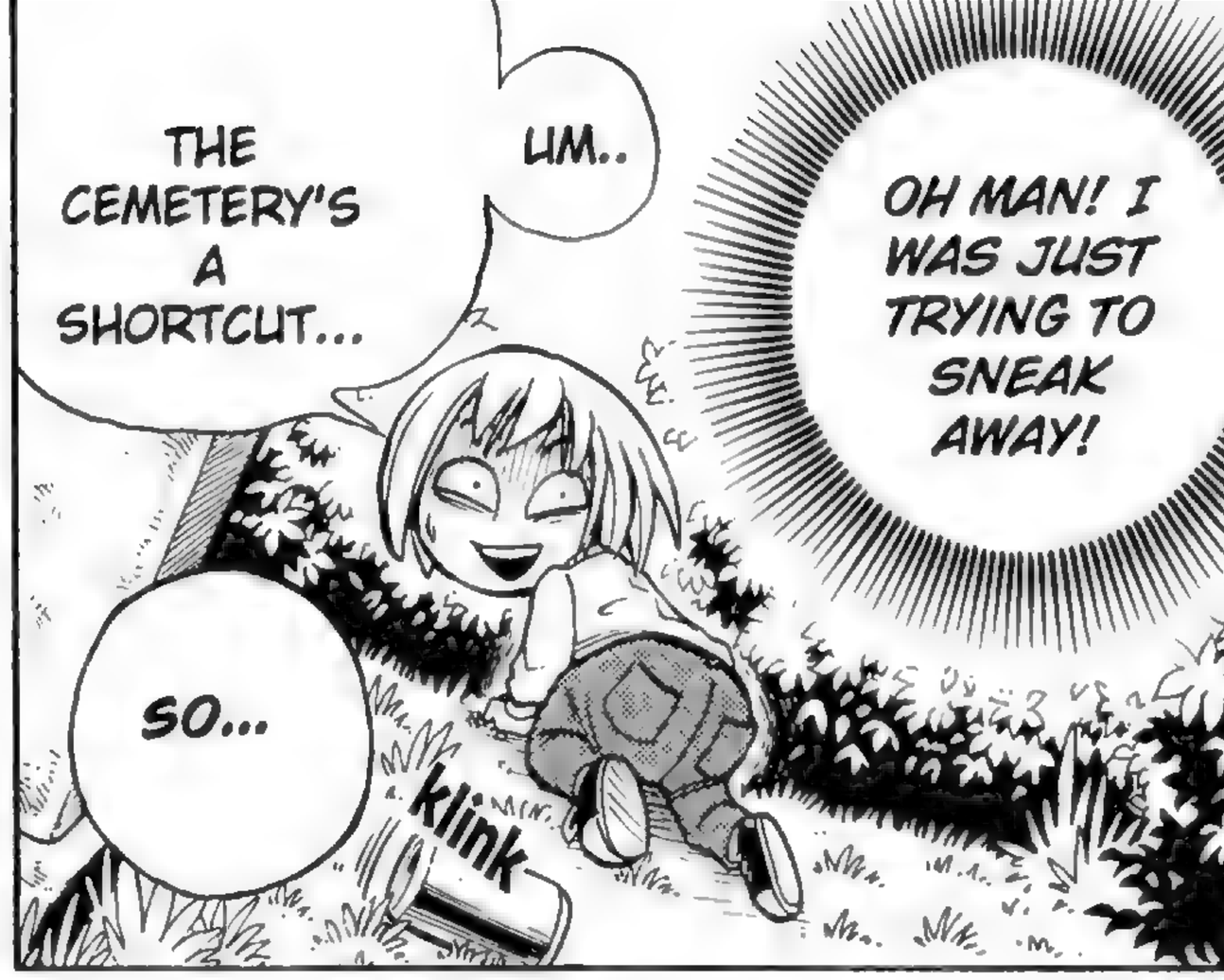
gasp

DON'T BE BASHFUL!

DON'T YOU WANT VENGEANCE!? HA! YOU'RE NOTHING!

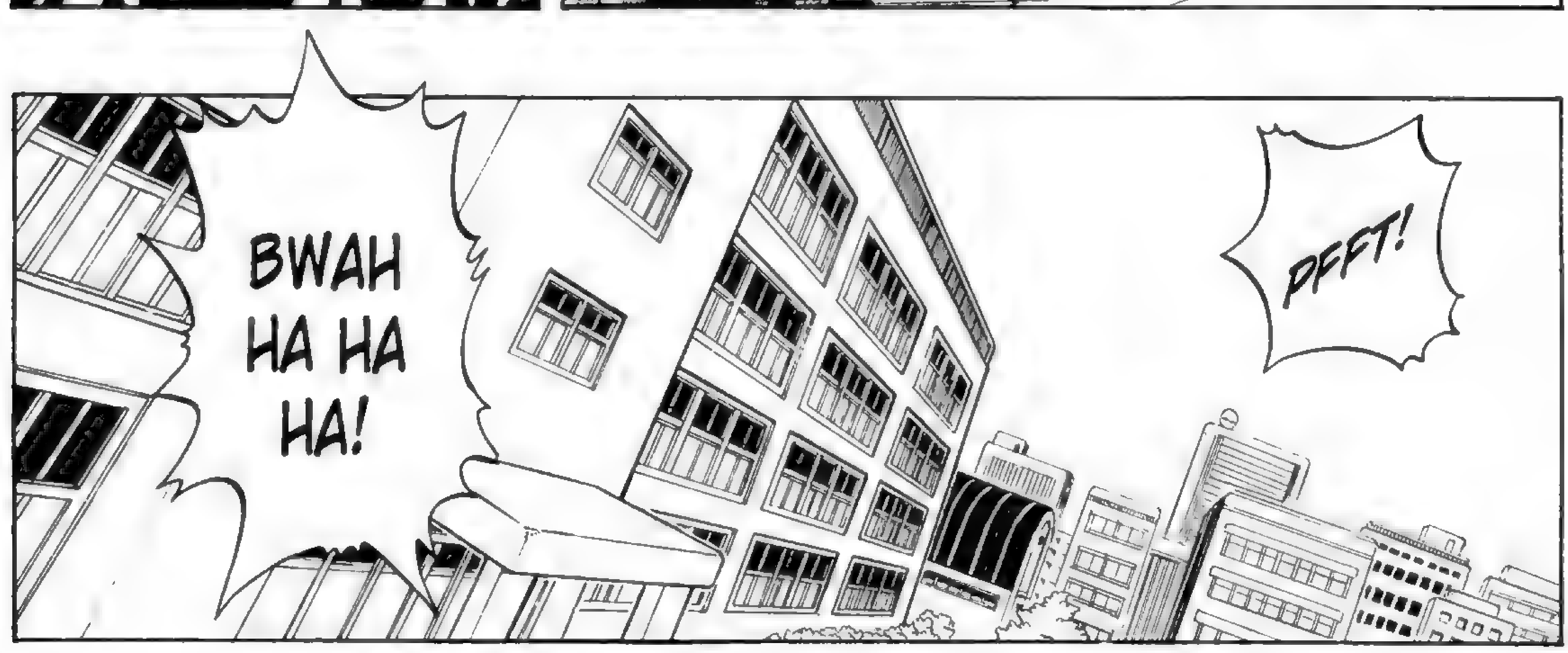


Heh
YOU'RE THE LITTLE SNEAK WHO'S BEEN DEFILING MY HAPPY PLACE...


THE CEMETERY'S A SHORTCUT...
UM..
OH MAN! I WAS JUST TRYING TO SNEAK AWAY!
SO...
klink

wilt
I...
I WASN'T–

krunch
doof
fwak
bam
splak


BWAH HA HA HA!
PFFT!

I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD REALLY FOLLOW HIM.

WE WARNED YOU ABOUT THAT CEMETERY.

pfft

ha ha ha

heh

YOU NEVER USED TO DO ANYTHING BUT STUDY. WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, MANTA?!

ha ha ha

ho ho ho

...

SNIFF...

TOO DUMB TO LISTEN, I GUESS!

ha ha ha ha

FIRST YOU START RAVING ABOUT GHOSTS... NOW THIS!

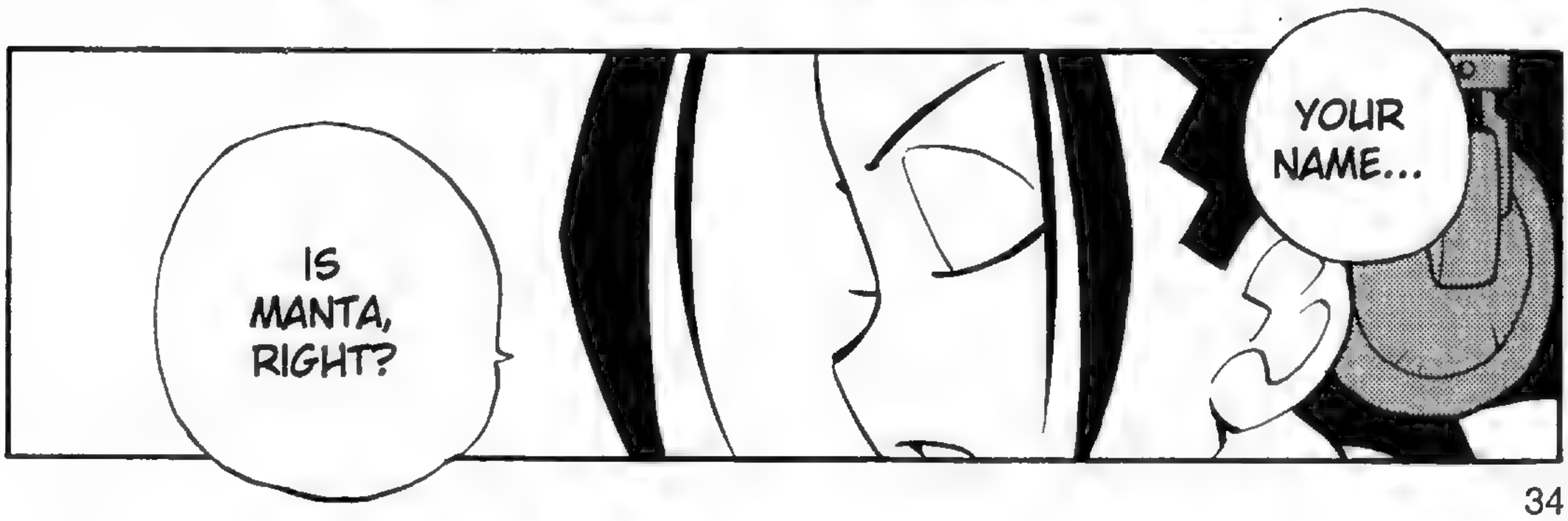
...

ha ha ha

GHOSTS DO EXIST.

THE NEW GUY!

HUH!?



LET ME GO!

LET'S GO SETTLE THE SCORE, MANTA!

flop flop flop

I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!!

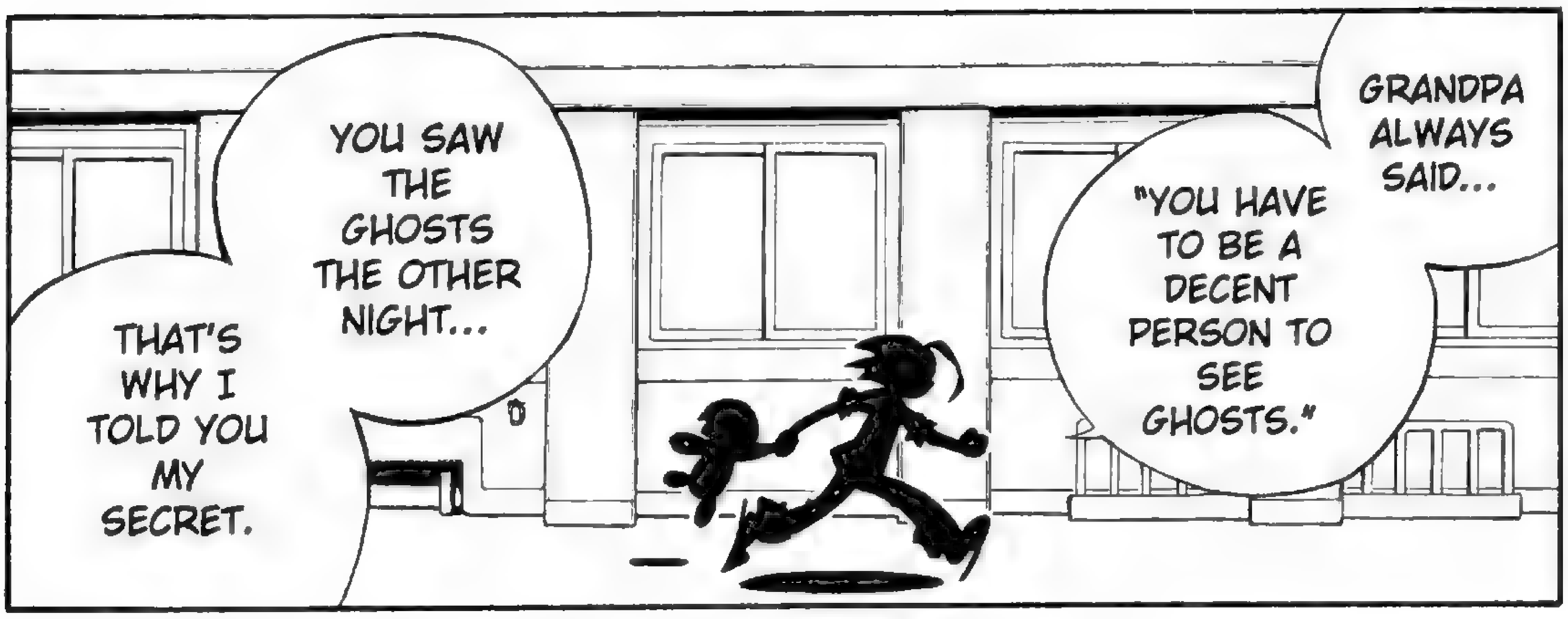
ARE YOU LISTENING?!

WH-WHO ASKED YOU TO HELP ME!?

HUH?

...YOU'RE MY FRIEND.

BUT I HAVE TO HELP YOU...


THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU MY SECRET.
YOU SAW THE GHOSTS THE OTHER NIGHT...
"YOU HAVE TO BE A DECENT PERSON TO SEE GHOSTS."
GRANDPA ALWAYS SAID...

I DON'T WANNA BE LUCKY!!
NO!!
heh heh heh
LUCKY GUY!!
BECAUSE YOU'RE MY FRIEND!

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE ONE MUSCLE!
AND THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY OF THEM, AND THAT ONE GUY CAN BREAK A STONE WITH HIS WOODEN SWORD!
HE'S A NUT CASE! IT'S SUICIDE TO PICK A FIGHT WITH HIM!

I DON'T NEED A SLACKER LIKE YOU FOR MY FRIEND!
AND THOSE GUYS ARE REALLY TOUGH!!

HE USES A WOODEN SWORD, RIGHT?
!

graah
DON'T WORRY... IT'LL WORK OUT.
WE'LL GET KILLED!
flop
flop

YEAH! I AM PRETTY SKINNY!
tump
THEN FORGET THIS IDEA!!

WE HAVE SOMETHING A LOT BETTER THAN THAT!
heh
THEN DON'T WORRY!

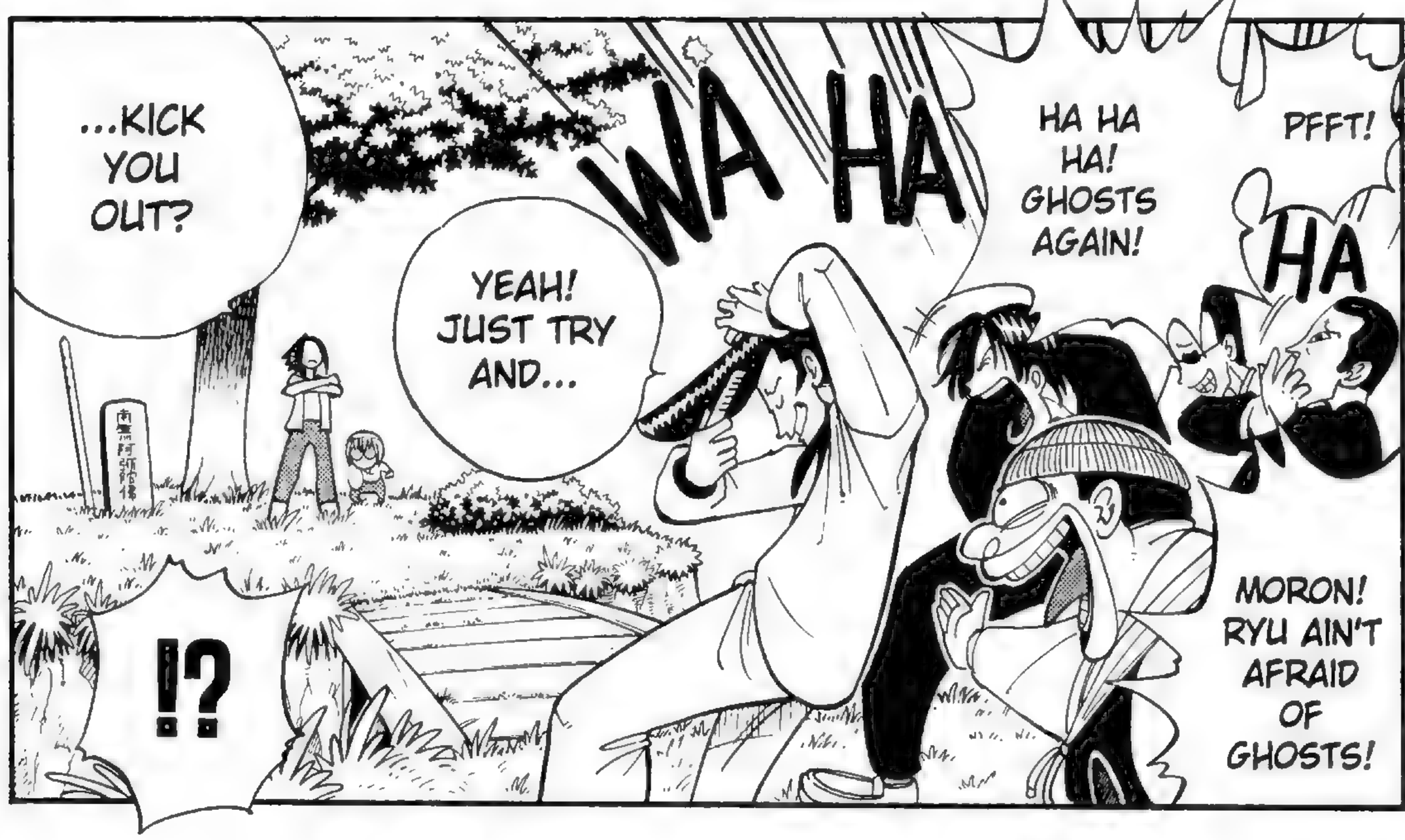
PLEEEASE! LET ME GO-O-O!
flip
flop
flip
flop
I-I DON'T GET IT!

dooom
ACK! THEY'RE HERE!
aaaa
HUH!?
NO!
wrgl wrgl
I WANNA... GET OUTTA HERE!

doom
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
DID YOU TELL US TO GET OUTTA HERE!?

doom
PFFT!
THIS TIME I'LL SEND YOU STRAIGHT TO THE AFTERLIFE, PUNK.

YOUR NEIGHBORS IN THE AFTERLIFE HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING. *THEY* WANT YOU TO GET OUT.



A-
A SAM-URAI GHOST!?

For giving me the opportunity to redeem my disgrace...
I am grateful to you, Lord Yoh!

AMIDAMARU!

WHOOSH!!

DIS-GRACE!?

YOU MEAN... THAT GHOST...

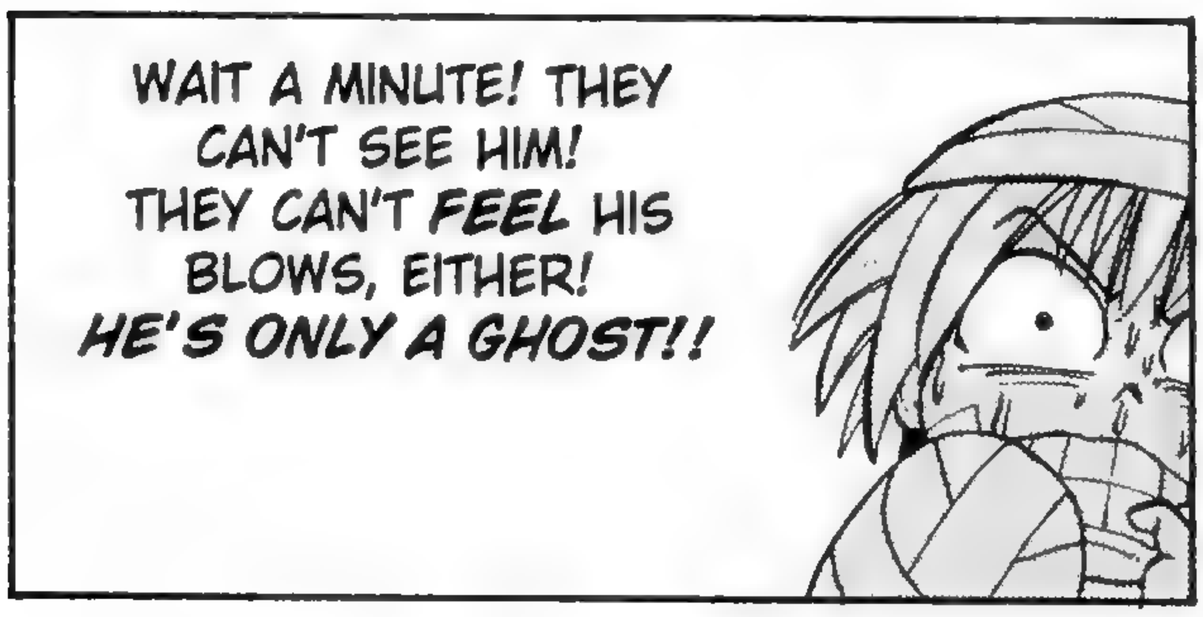
OF THAT BROKEN GRAVE!

...IS THE OWNER...

The legendary samurai!!

Amidamaru!!

IS THIS ABOUT THAT HAS-BEEN AMIDAMARU AGAIN?
GIMME A BREAK!


WAIT A MINUTE! THEY CAN'T SEE HIM! THEY CAN'T *FEEL* HIS BLOWS, EITHER! *HE'S ONLY A GHOST!!*

APACHE!
Grrrr
SPACE SHOT!
WSK
WSK
WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO...

...WOULD LAUGH AT A WOODEN SWORD!
I BET A REAL SAMU-RAI...
BUT...

KILL 'EM BOTH!

zak zak

KILL 'EM!

DA DOOM

GET 'EM...

!

Hrmm.

OKAY, AMIDAMARU ... IT'S SHOW TIME.

WITH YOUR STRENGTH AND SKILLS POWERING MY BODY...

AAAH! WE'RE DOOMED!

THEY'VE GOT KNIVES!

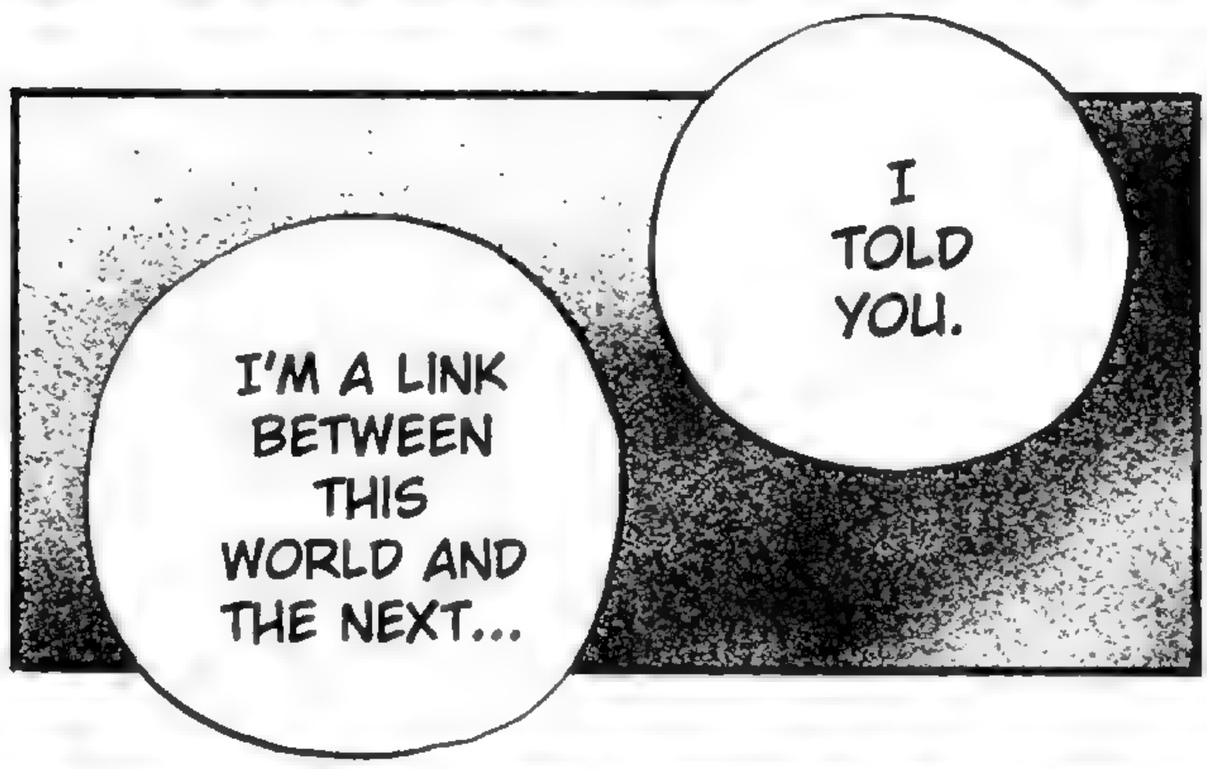
ALL WE'VE GOT IS INTAN-GIBLE ESSENCE OF SAMURAI!

HA HA... JUST WATCH...

...WE'RE INVINCIBLE!

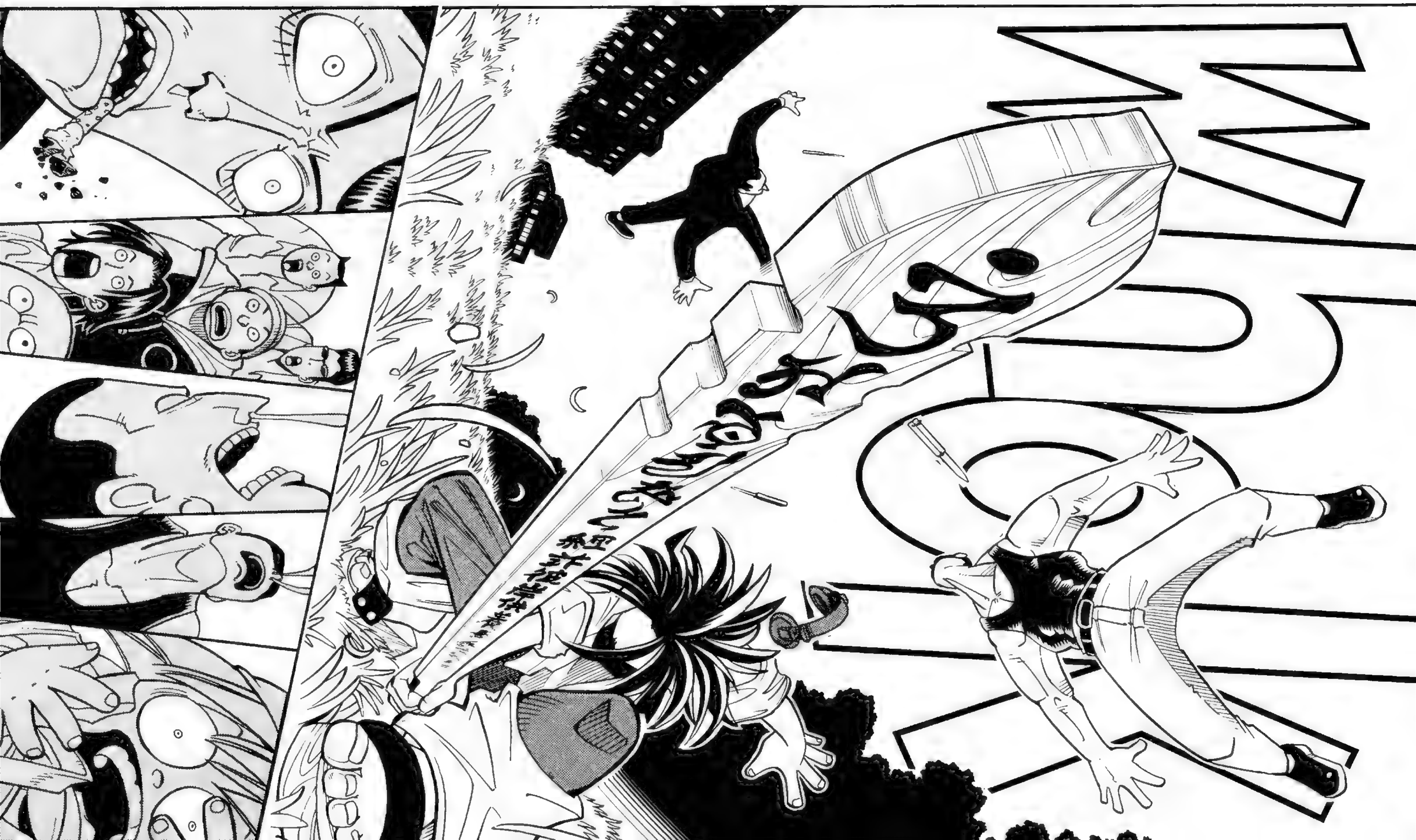
Hrmm.

Amidamaru Spirit Flame Mode



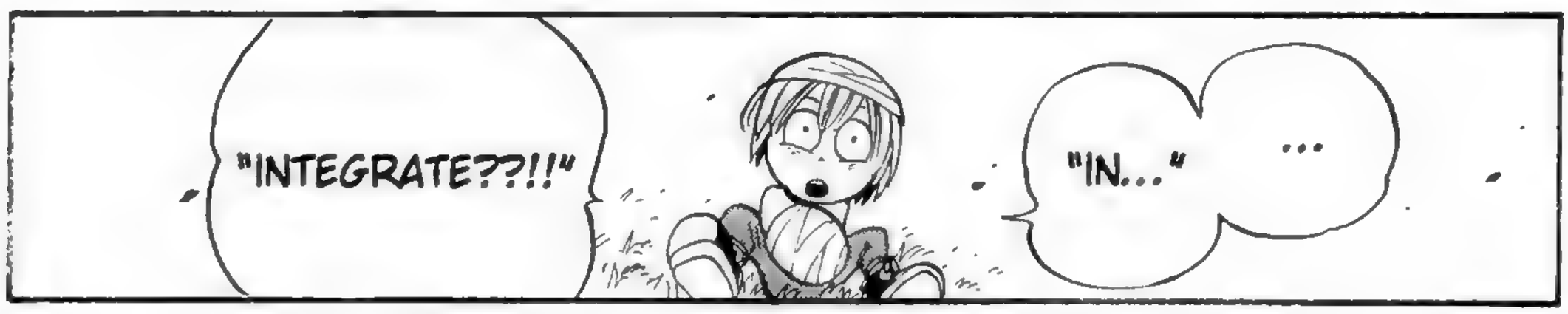
INTE-GRATE !!!

HERE WE GO!


ドンッ
ドンッ
ドンッ

WITH A WOODEN GRAVE MARKER!?
H-HE BATTED THEM LIKE BASE-BALLS!?
THAT AIN'T RIGHT!?

...!
thud


"INTEGRATE??!!"
"IN..."
...

IS THAT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LINK BETWEEN THE WORLDS!?
M-MY GOD!

flip
"INTEGRATE, v. TO BRING TOGETHER SEPARATE PARTS TO MAKE A WHOLE!"
DOES THIS MEAN—?!

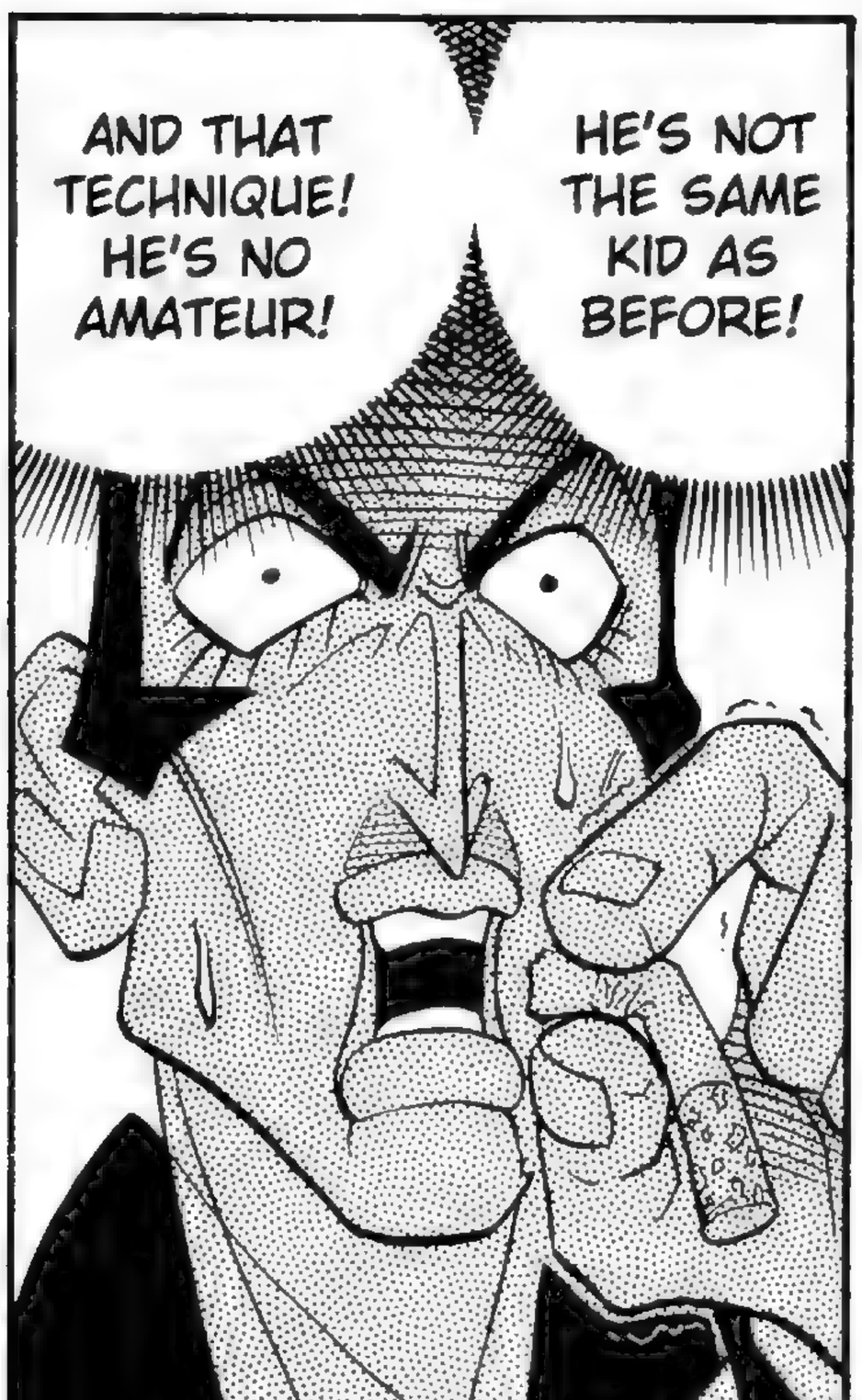
This is an unworthy weapon...
But good enough for the likes of you...
whsh

Heh heh heh...

Go

You are next. Are you ready!?

Um



Have you never faced a man before?

Why do you hesitate?

Coward!

I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S A COWARD!

ARGH!

YOU SAMURAI WANNA-BE!!

OSH

BECAUSE RIGHT NOW -

HE'S POSSESSED BY A REAL SAMURAI!

DON'T ATTACK HIM NOW! HE'LL KILL YOU!

OH!

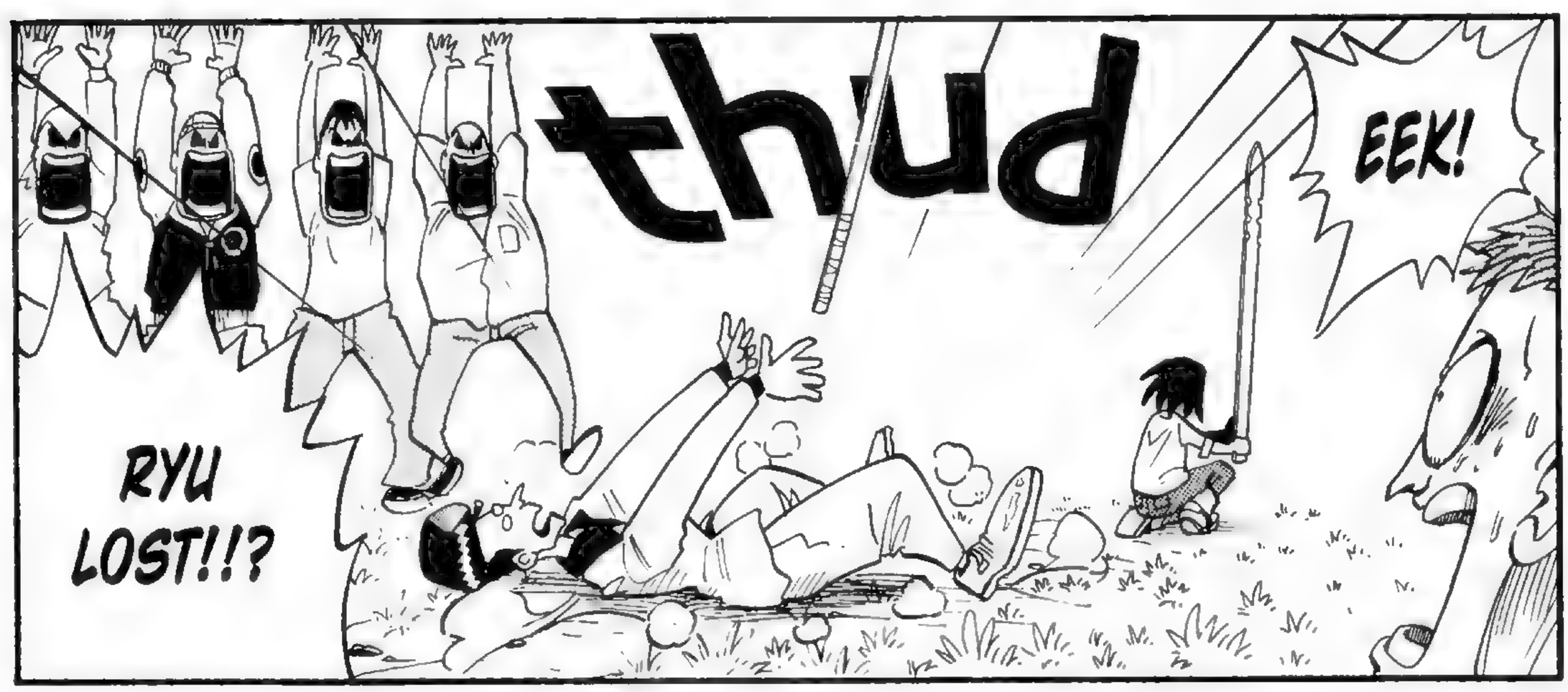
DON'T!

...AND TAKING ON THEIR POWERS!
SKILLS!
EVERY-THING!
TO LINK THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT!
...MEANS LETTING GHOSTS POSSESS HIS BODY!
I GET IT NOW!

...ALLOWING THEM TO INTERACT WITH THE MATERIAL WORLD!

HEY!
RYU, LOOK OUT!

Fear not, I will not kill.
There is enough scum in the realm of spirits already.


thud
EEK!
RYU LOST!!?

IT CLEARS A CHANNEL IN HIS MIND...
BY EMPTY-ING HIM-SELF...
NOW I KNOW WHY HE'S ALWAYS SPACING OUT.

Aaa! Run!
duh
h
...

THAT'S THE GUY WHO CAN LINK THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT...
...HE OPENS HIMSELF TO THE GHOST'S POWERS.

YOH ASAKURA...

THE SHAMAN...

YOH ASAKURA

- Shinra Private Junior High
- 1st Year • Age 13
- Birthday: May 12
- Star Sign: Taurus
- Blood Type: A
- Yoh's first name means "leaf."

REINCARNATION 2: THE WAITING SAMURAI

AHHH!

WAAAH

THIS IS ANYTHING *BUT* NATURAL!

SUPER- NATURAL, OR *PRETER-* NATURAL, MAYBE!

...

Reincarnation 2: The WAITING SAMURAI

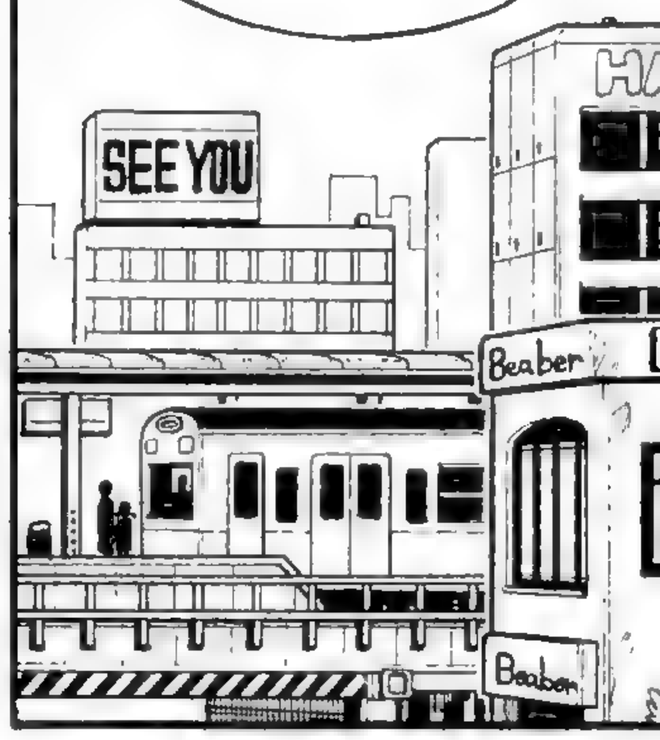
GATHERING PARTNERS!?

WELL, IT'S MORE ABOUT GATHERING PARTNERS THAN TRAINING.

WHY DID YOU COME TO TRAIN IN TOKYO, OF ALL PLACES?

FWP

ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY GHOSTS, HUH?



A SHAMAN'S STATUS DEPENDS ON THE STRENGTH OF THE GHOSTS WHO WORK WITH HIM.

YEAH, YOU SAW IT YOURSELF.

AFTER ALL, IT'S OVER-FLOWING WITH GHOSTS.

SURE, TOKYO'S THE PLACE TO BE.

SO THAT'S WHY YOU CAME TO TOKYO BY YOURSELF?

TO BE A FULL-FLEDGED SHAMAN?

...WHO CAN'T REST IN PEACE!

POWERFUL GHOSTS WITH ALL SORTS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS...

WHAT, JUST LIKE THAT!?

DOOM

AN WA!

YOW!

SO THAT'S THE DEAL.

WANNA BE MY PARTNER, AMIDAMARU?

WOW... YOH SEEMS SO SPACEY, BUT...

I REFUSE.

YEAH, YOUR SWORDPLAY THE OTHER DAY WAS PURE GENIUS.

HA HA HA HA HA

I? YOUR PARTNER?

OUR DESIRES JUST HAPPENED TO COINCIDE THAT DAY.

huh!

I WILL NOT LEAVE THIS PLACE.

bi bi bi m

I HAVE NO REASON TO HELP YOU NOW.

WE NEED TO TALK!

VOOOOM

YOH!

HUH?

COME ON! DON'T BE SELFISH!

EEP!

gulp

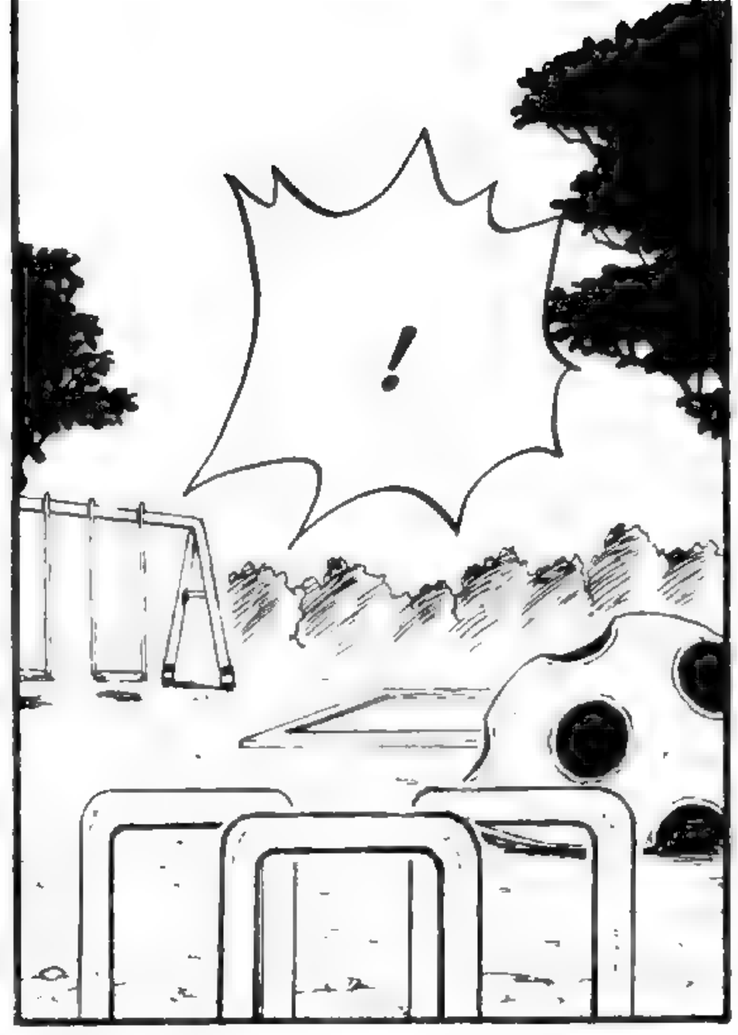
tsk!

OH!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, ASKING THAT SAMURAI OF ALL PEOPLE TO BE YOUR PARTNER!?

WHAT DO I MEAN!?



IT FELT KINDA WARM WHEN WE INTEGRATED.

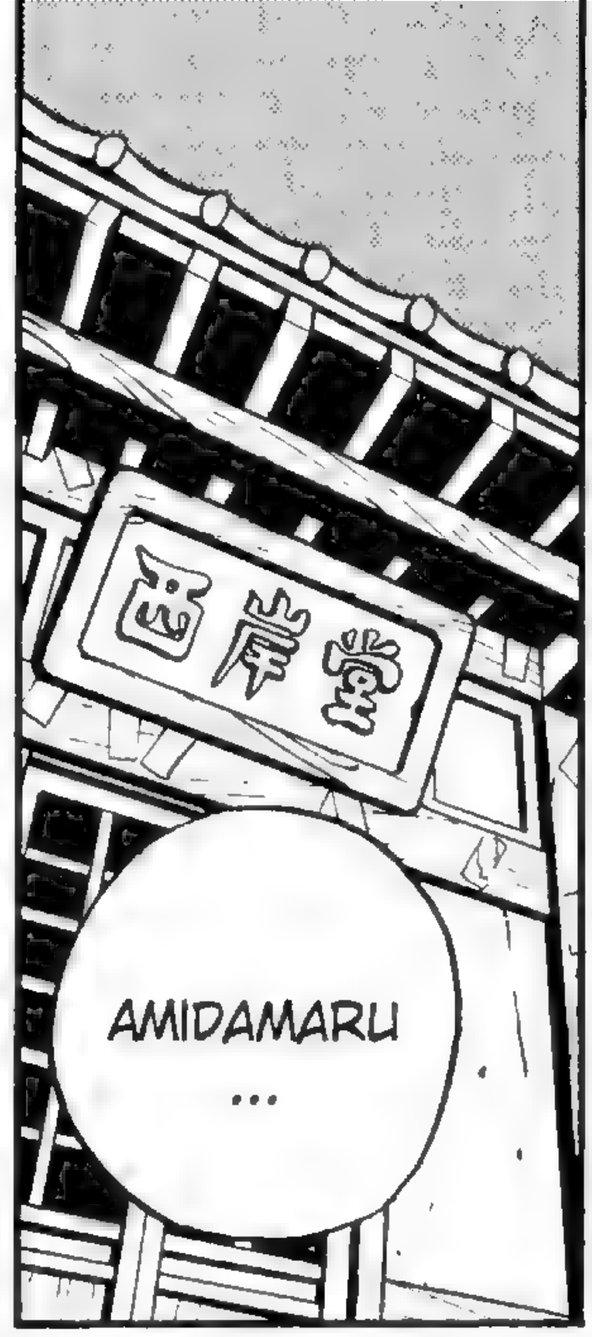
I'M LISTENING, BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S SO BAD.

WARM!?

huh? huh?

WHY DID YOU TURN HIM DOWN?

THAT IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.



*SIGN: SAIGAN HALL

heh heh

I'M NOT SO BLOODTHIRSTY THAT I WOULD DIE FIGHTING A BEAR-- LIKE YOU DID.

HMPH! WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY! YOU COULD HAVE GONE ON A REAL RAMPAGE WITH HIS BODY!

I AM WAITING FOR SOMEONE.

WOW!

HOW DID THIS SURVIVE ALL THIS TIME!?

THE FUNBARI MUSEUM

THE NEXT DAY...

HARUSAME... SPRING RAIN!!

The Fiend Amidamaru

Harusame

IT'S THE SWORD AMIDAMARU USED 600 YEARS AGO!

BUT THE ONLY CLUES ARE WHAT'S WRITTEN THERE...

WE COME HERE A LOT ON FIELD TRIPS.

HOW'D YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS? THIS IS AN IMPORTANT CLUE!

WHAT GOOD IS AN OLD SWORD TO YOU?

C'MON, LET'S GO HOME.

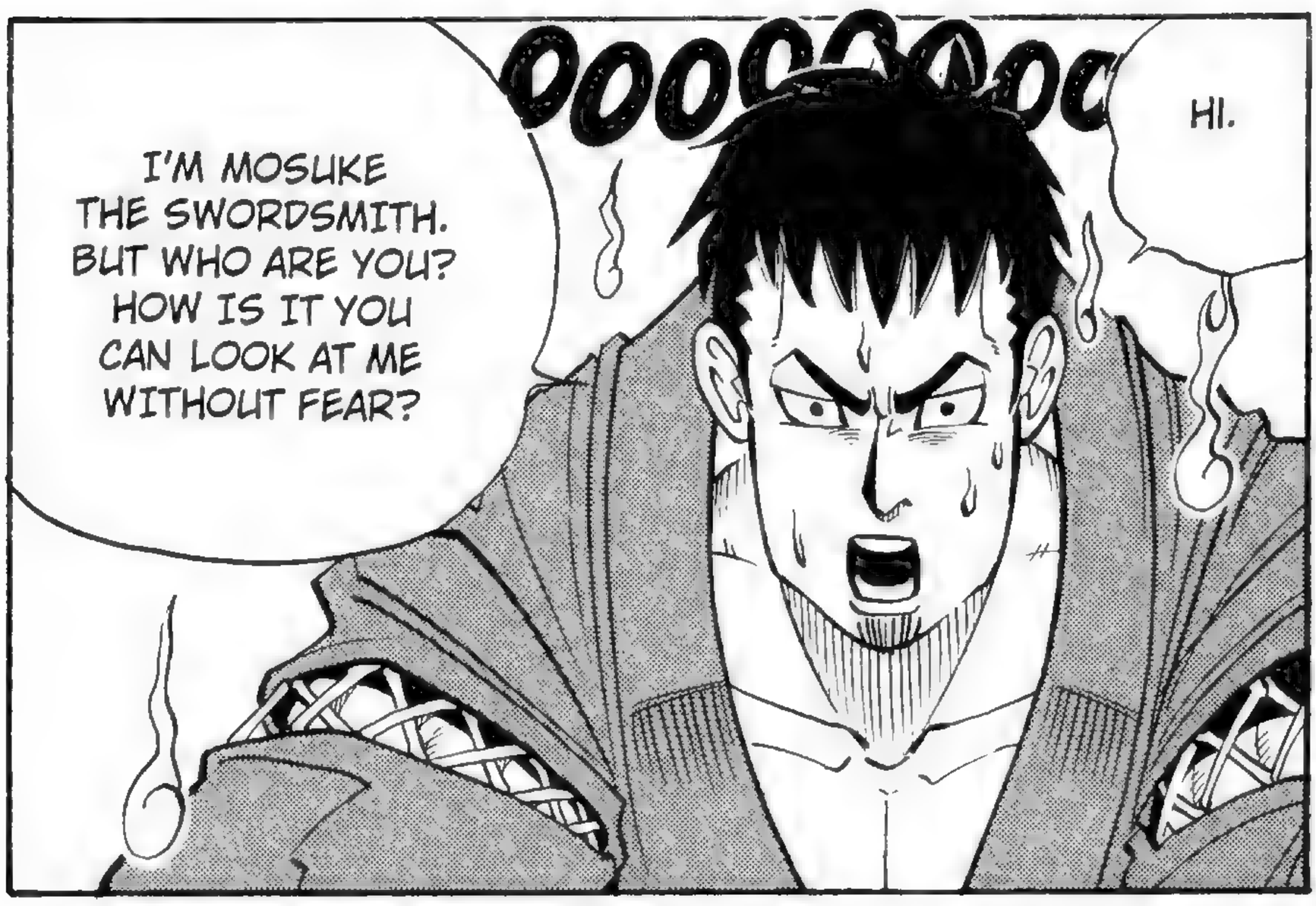
NO, THIS IS ENOUGH.

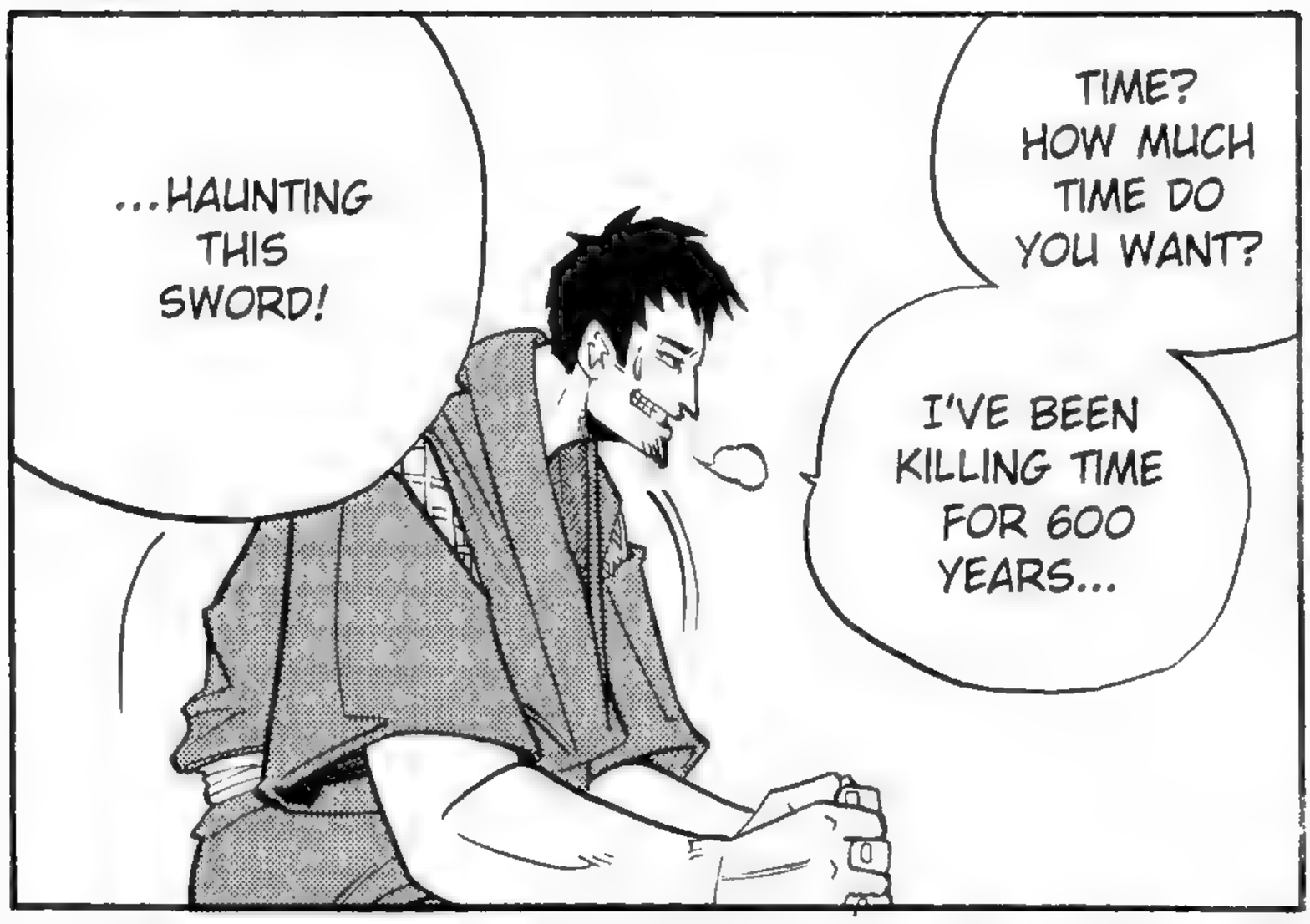
BECAUSE WE CAN JUST ASK...

EXIT

AAAAH!!

...THE BIG GHOST WHO'S STARING AT US.




...HAUNTING THIS SWORD!
TIME? HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU WANT?
I'VE BEEN KILLING TIME FOR 600 YEARS...

DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME TO SPARE, MOSUKE?
HEH HEH...WE HAVE OUR WAYS.
SWORD-SMITH!?

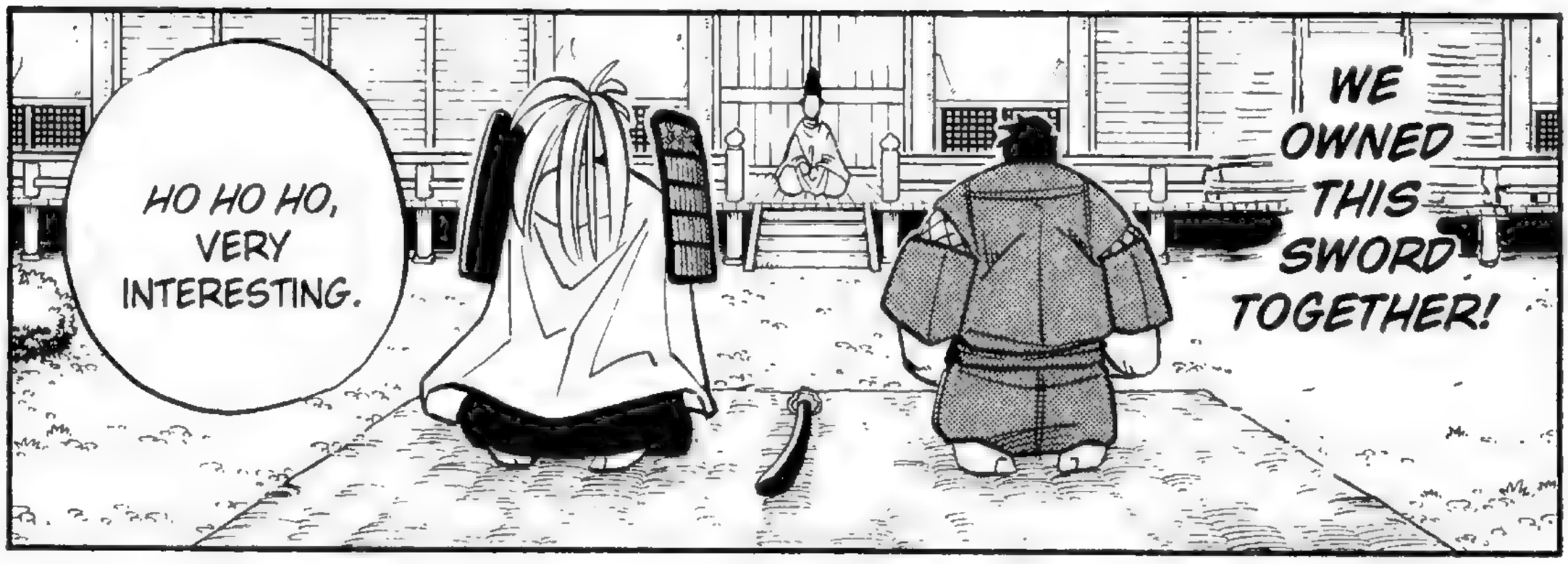
I KILLED ITS OWNER!
KNOW ABOUT IT!?

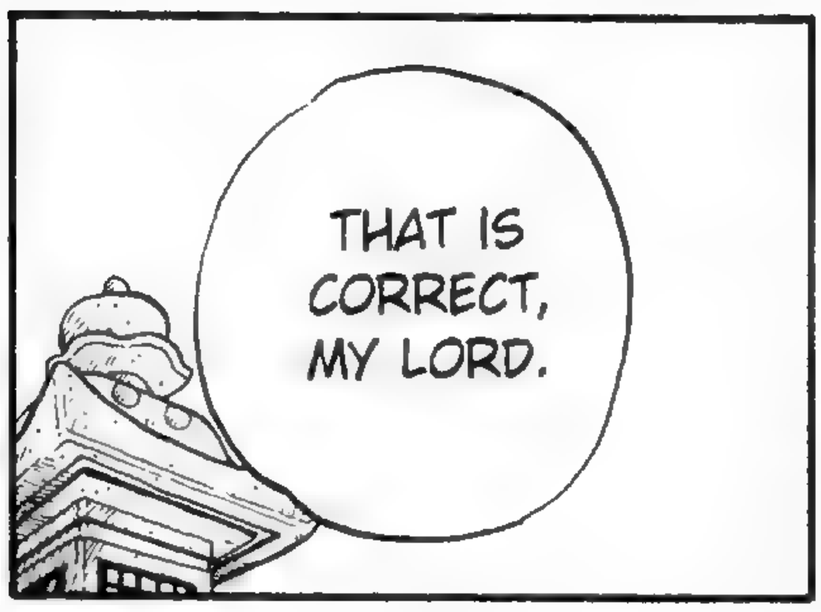
SO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS SWORD?

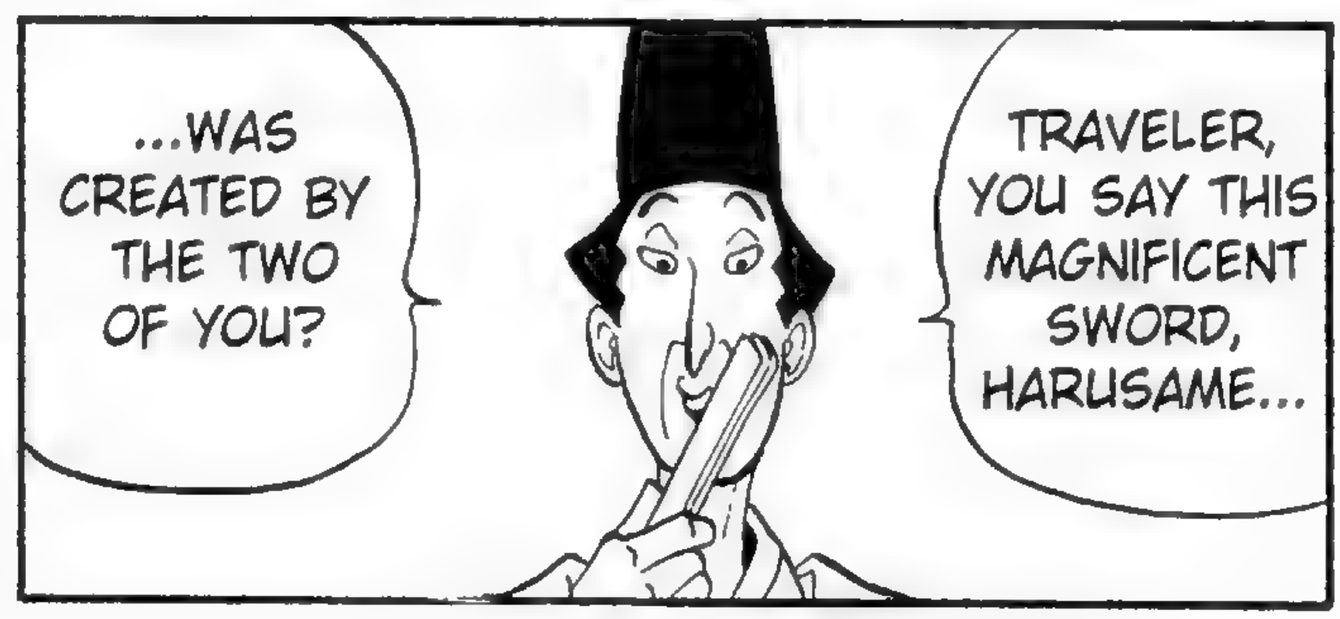
600 YEARS?!

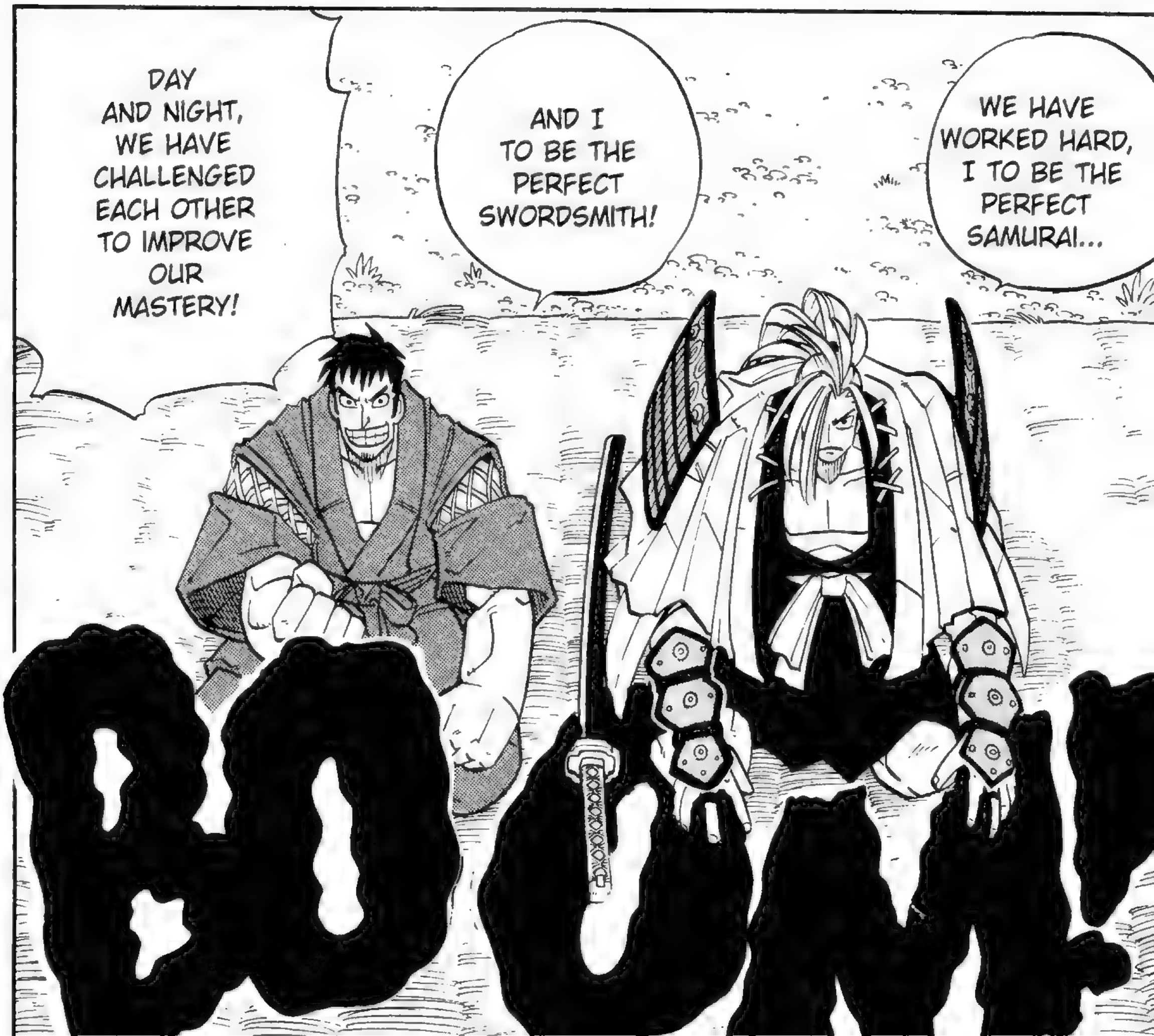
FOOL! NEVER CALL HIM A FIEND!!
HE AND I WERE BEST FRIENDS...
!?

YOU KILLED THE FIEND!?
!


HO HO HO, VERY INTERESTING.
WE OWNED THIS SWORD TOGETHER!

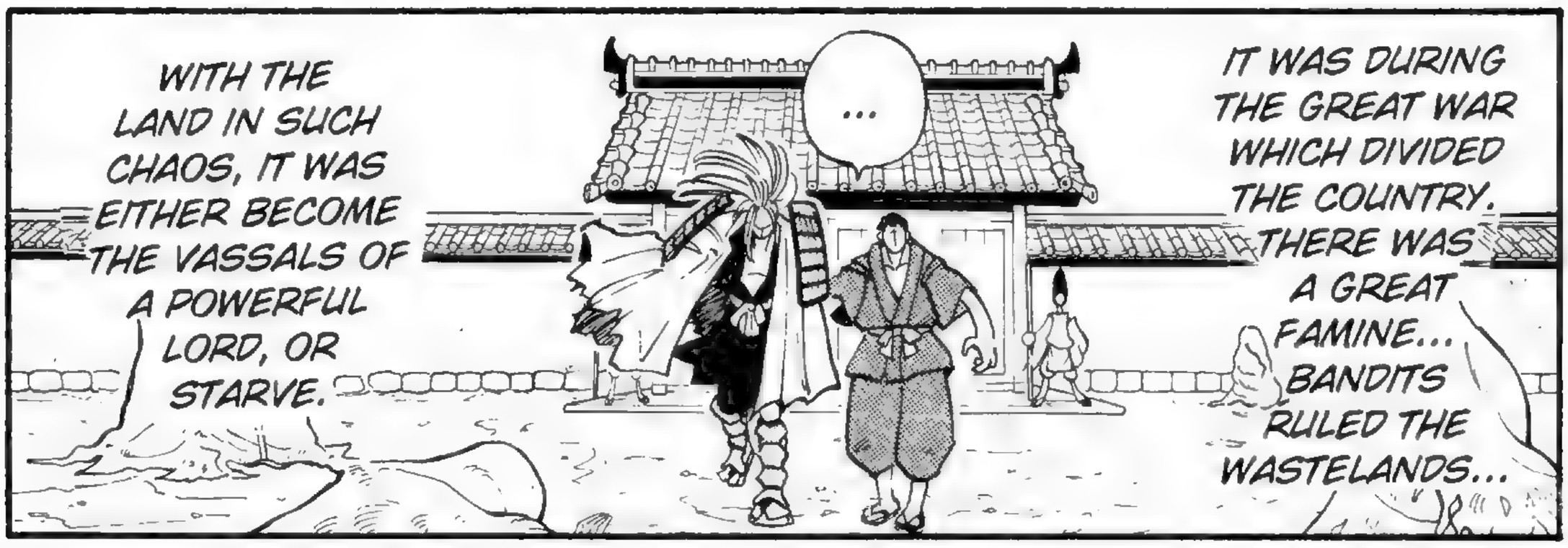

THAT IS CORRECT, MY LORD.


...WAS CREATED BY THE TWO OF YOU?
TRAVELER, YOU SAY THIS MAGNIFICENT SWORD, HARUSAME...


DAY AND NIGHT, WE HAVE CHALLENGED EACH OTHER TO IMPROVE OUR MASTERY!
AND I TO BE THE PERFECT SWORDSMITH!
WE HAVE WORKED HARD, I TO BE THE PERFECT SAMURAI...

!!

WHY DON'T YOU TWO COME TO WORK FOR ME?
HO HO HO. I HAVE A PASSION FOR SWORDS, MYSELF!


WITH THE LAND IN SUCH CHAOS, IT WAS EITHER BECOME THE VASSALS OF A POWERFUL LORD, OR STARVE.
...
IT WAS DURING THE GREAT WAR WHICH DIVIDED THE COUNTRY. THERE WAS A GREAT FAMINE... BANDITS RULED THE WASTELANDS...

AND WE'LL NEVER HAVE TO GO HUNGRY AGAIN!

I NEVER IMAGINED YOU'D PRESENT THE LORD WITH A SWORD YOU MADE YOURSELF!
Hoo rah!
WE DID IT, AMIDAMARU! WE TWO ORPHANS HAVE RISEN TO HONORABLE STATIONS!

TRUE!
I'VE JUST BEEN TRYING TO MAKE SWORDS TO EQUAL OR SURPASS YOUR EXPERTISE!
NOW THAT YOU HAVE A MASTER TO SERVE, YOU'LL BECOME A GREAT SAMURAI!

KILL MOSUKE!?

BUT HELL WAS HELL, WHEREVER WE WENT.

ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE SURVIVED COUNTLESS BATTLEFIELDS CAN CREATE THIS TRUE BEAUTY OF THE BLADE.

THIS BLADE'S BRILLIANCE BEWITCHES THE SOUL.

hmm...

srs

B-BUT--

QUIET, AMIDA-MARU.

tp tp

tp

UHN...!

BE GRATEFUL I'M DOING MOSUKE THE KINDNESS OF ALLOWING A FRIEND TO KILL HIM.

HO HO HO.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF *SCARCITY VALUE*? THIS SWORD MUST NEVER HAVE AN EQUAL.

RUN AWAY RIGHT NOW, MOSUKE!

WHAT SHOULD I DO!?

WHERE'S THE SENSE IN IT!? AND AFTER WE'VE COME SO FAR!

SCARCITY VALUE!?

NO.

HRK

I KNOW!! LET'S ESCAPE TOGETHER!! THEN NOBODY GETS HURT!!

!!

BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU!?

BUT...I COULD NEVER KILL YOU, EITHER. I WILL ACCEPT THE CRIME AND THE DISGRACE FOR LETTING YOU ESCAPE.

I AM A SAMURAI. I CANNOT DESERT THE LORD TO WHOM I HAVE SWORN FEALTY.

VERY WELL.

AMIDAMARU!

SO I WANT TO GIVE YOU THE FINEST SWORD EVER.

WE MIGHT NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

COULD YOU LEND ME HARUSAME FOR TONIGHT?

BUT JUST WAIT ONE MORE DAY.

...A SWORD THAT WILL FAR SURPASS THE ONE I GAVE THE LORD!

THE MOST POWERFUL HARUSAME...

WHAT?

YOU HAVE ONE DAY. WE'LL MEET HERE TOMORROW NIGHT. I'LL BE HERE.

MOSUKE ...

BUT THAT WAS THE MISTAKE! SOMEONE HAD SPIED ON US!

OATH!?

YOU HAVE MY OATH!

HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, ORPHAN BOY?

NOT ANOTHER WORD!

BY THE WAY, THAT PEASANT YOU'RE WAITING FOR WON'T BE COMING. LAST NIGHT, WE DID YOUR JOB FOR YOU...

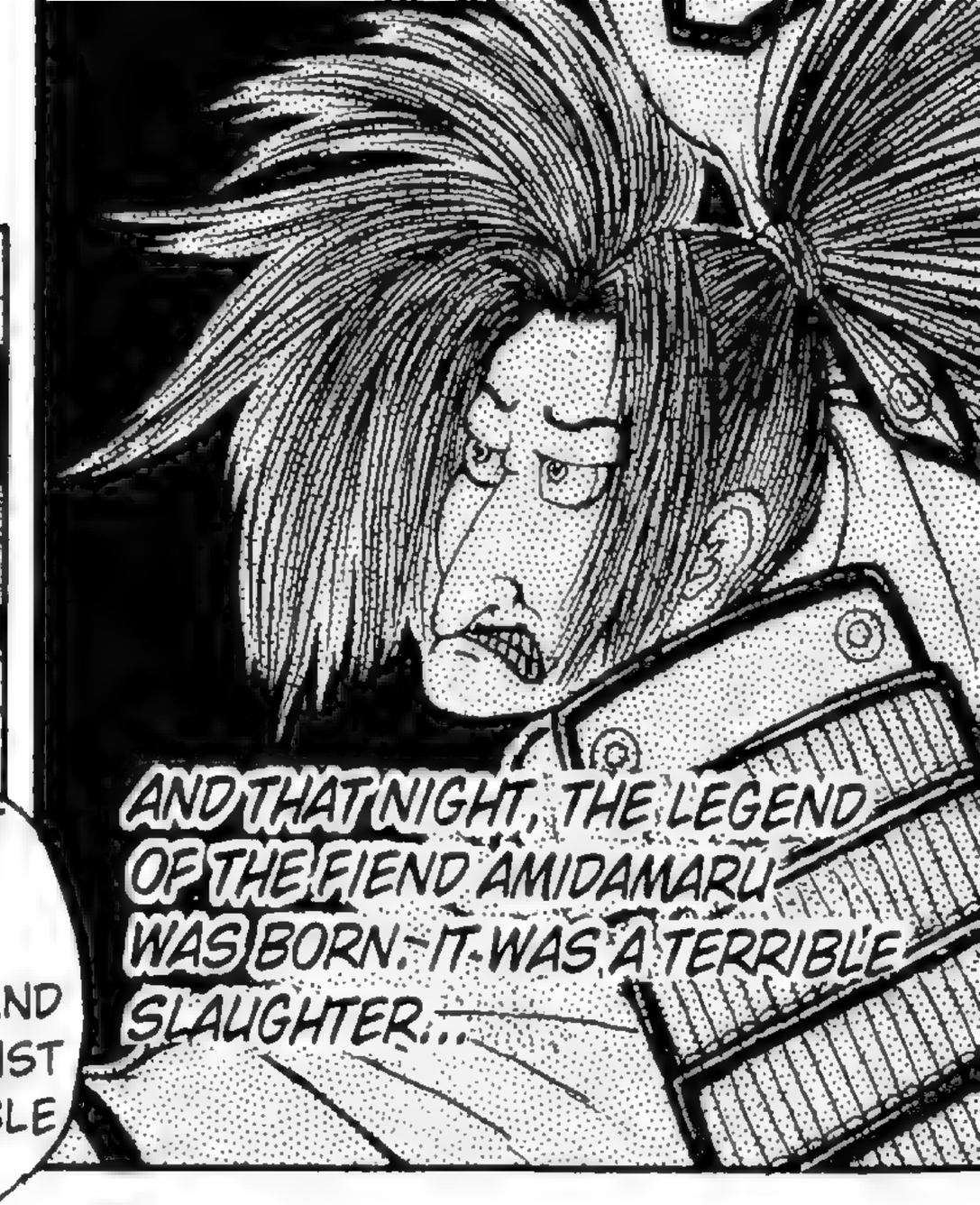
WE'D LIKE TO HAVE A FEW WORDS WITH YOU.

I WILL NOT LEAVE THIS SPOT.

I SWORE AN OATH.

IT'S MY FAULT HE'S CALLED A FIEND!
KRSH

BUT WITHOUT HARUSAME, AMIDAMARU COULD NOT STAND FOREVER AGAINST SUCH IMPOSSIBLE ODDS.


AND THAT NIGHT, THE LEGEND OF THE FIEND AMIDAMARU WAS BORN. IT WAS A TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER...

...I CAN NEVER REST IN PEACE!
I KILLED HIM! SO UNTIL I GIVE HARUSAME TO HIM AS I PROMISED...

YOU JUST WANT TO GIVE HIM THIS SWORD?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I... WAIT A MINUTE...

IS THAT ALL!?
OH. IS THAT ALL?

600 YEARS... WAITING FOR YOU TO COME!

...BECAUSE HE'S STILL WAITING AT THAT SPOT FOR YOU!

!!

HE REALLY WAS A LOYAL FRIEND...

...IS STILL WAITING... FOR ME!?

SOB!

TH-THAT FOOL...

Y...

YOU LIE!

WHAT!? ARE YOU INSANE!?

YOU'RE JUST AS MUCH OF A FOOL.

C'MON, LET'S GO SEE AMIDA-MARU.

I'LL LEND YOU MY BODY.

BECAUSE I...

AND AS A GHOST, I CAN'T EVEN LIFT IT...

I CANNOT BEAR TO FACE HIM! HARUSAME IS RUSTED!!

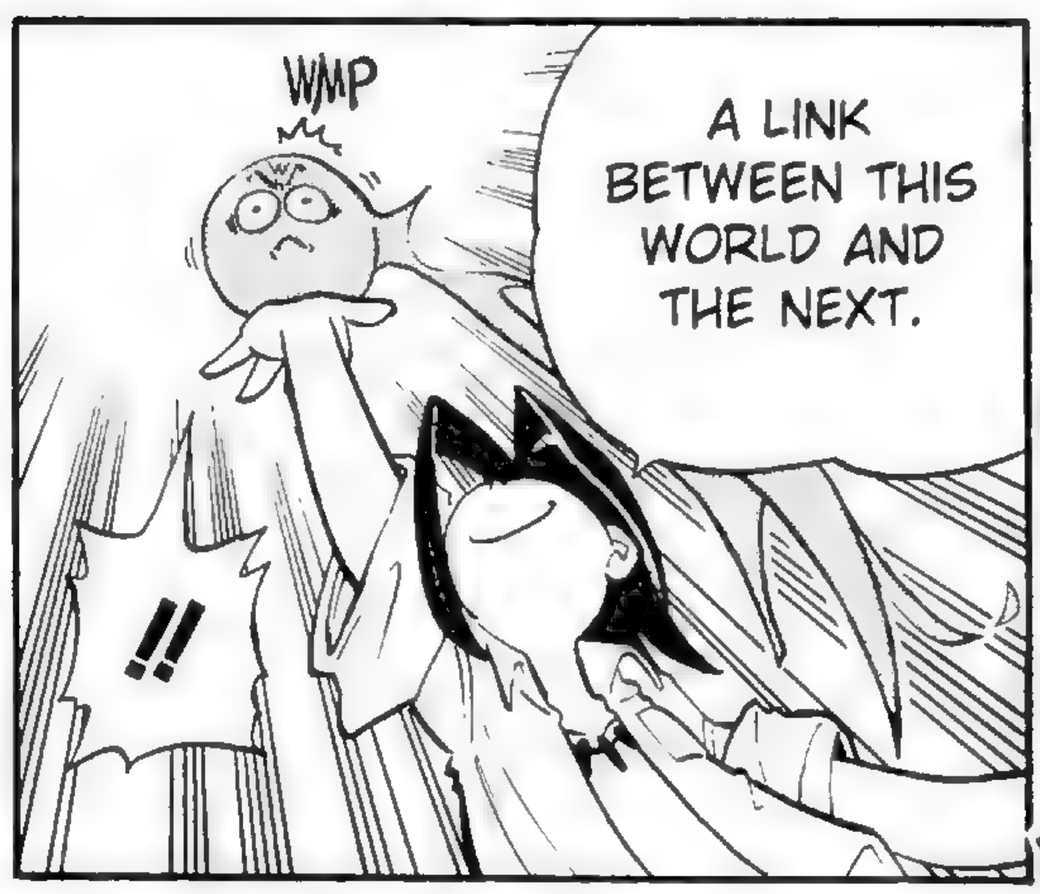
SURE YOU CAN.

Sniff

...AM A SHAMAN!

!!

MOSUKE SPIRIT FLAME MODE

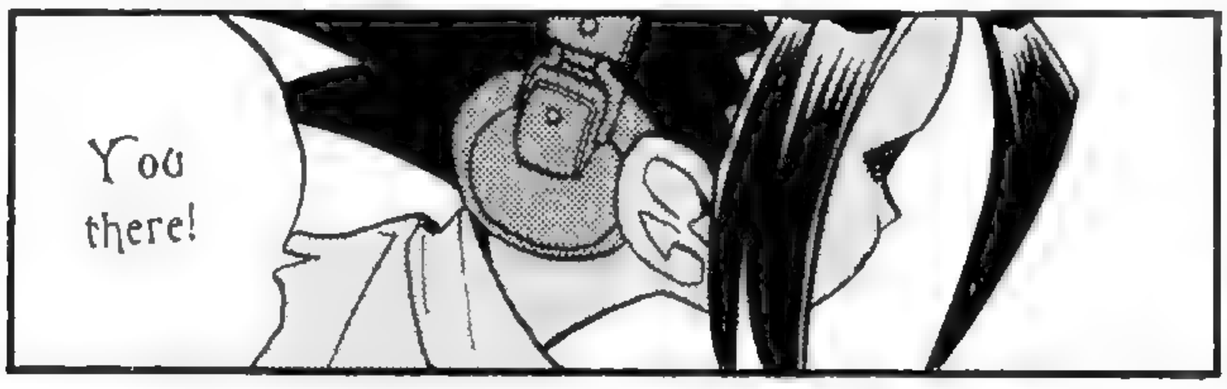


LAKZ-ZAK

INTEGRATE!

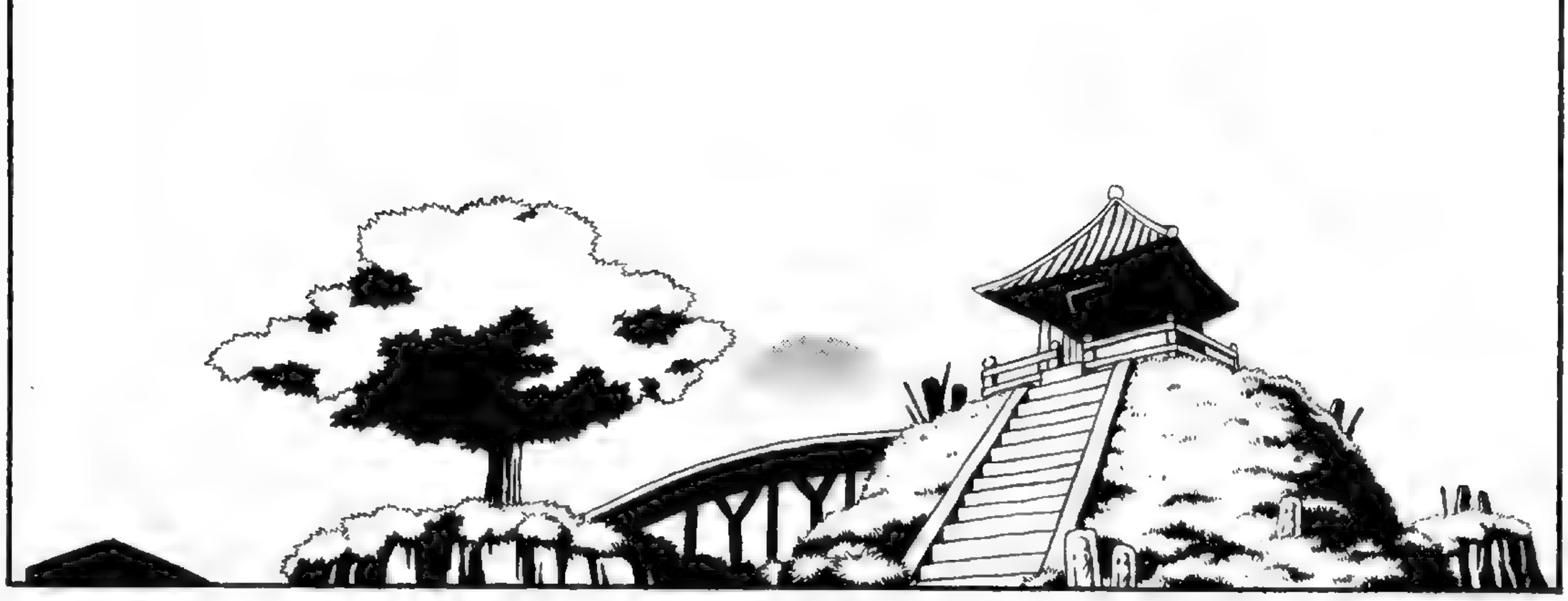
MOSUKE!

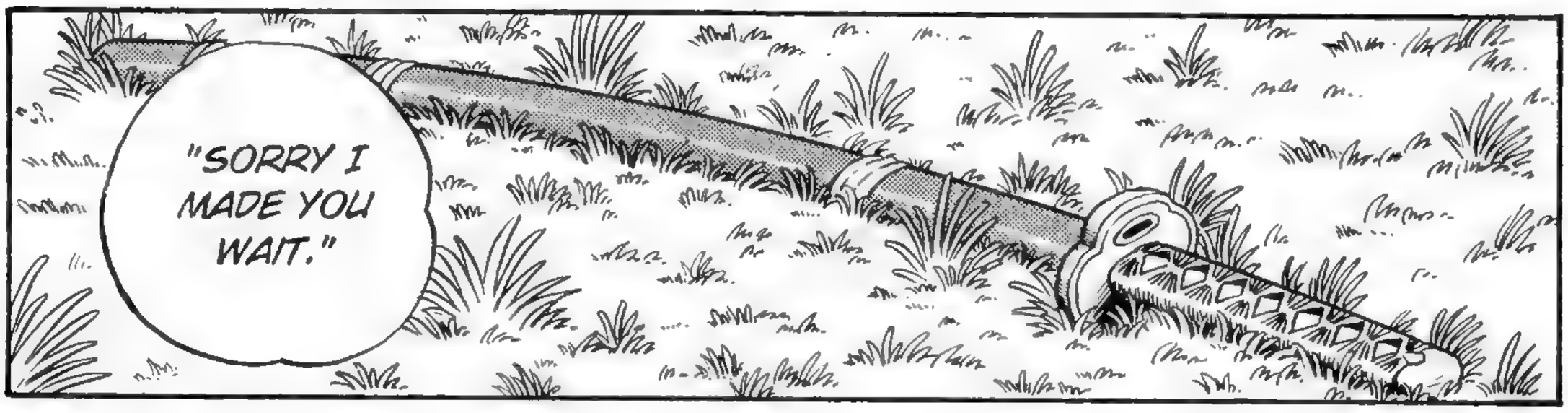
!
FWUMP!
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING!?
I'M... INSIDE HIS BODY!?


You there!

WHAT HAPPENED?
?

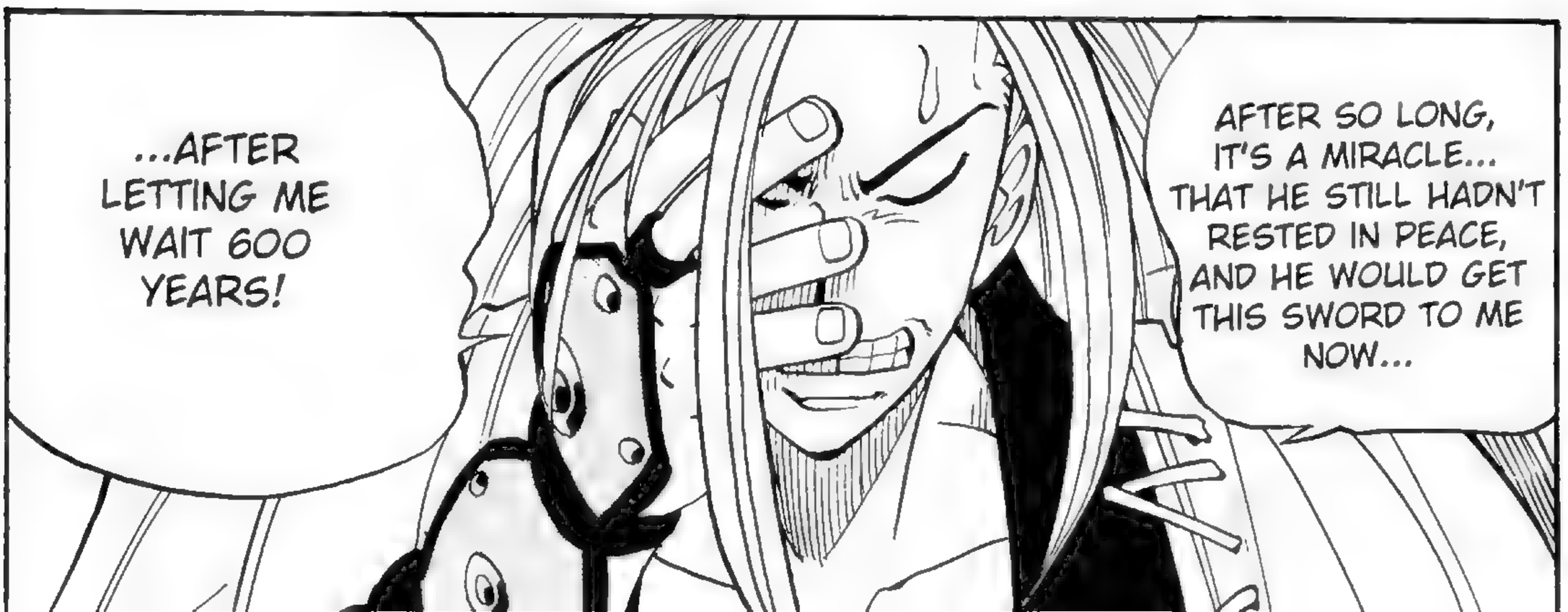
Take me to the nearest smithy!

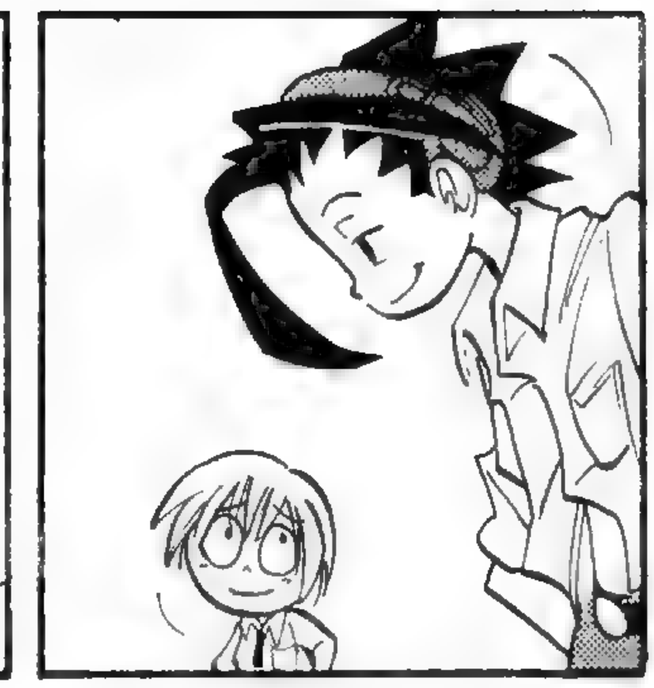


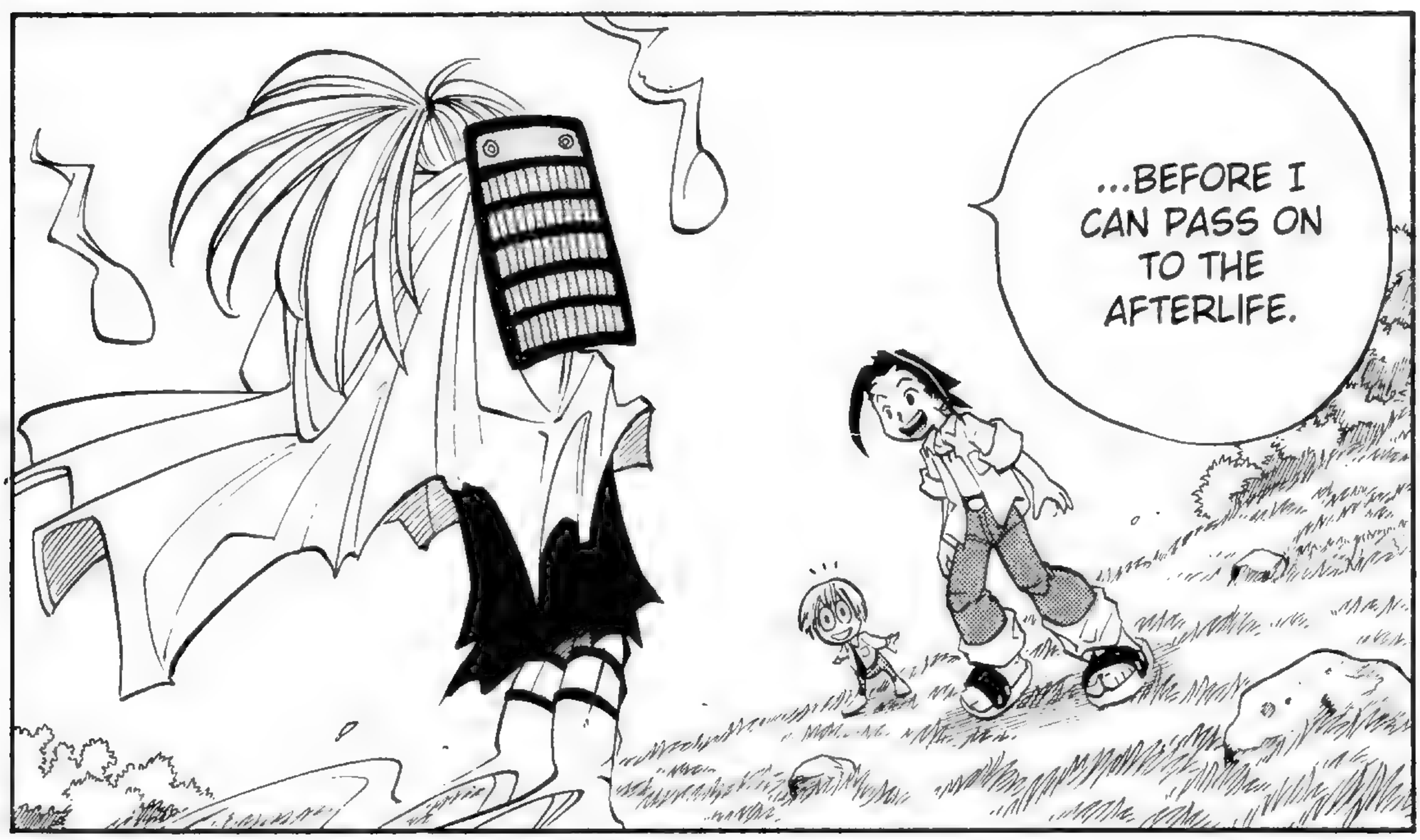

"SORRY I MADE YOU WAIT."

ONLY HE COULD HAVE MADE THIS SWORD...
INCREDIBLE, BUT...I KNOW IT'S POSSIBLE IF THIS IS YOUR DOING.
That fool.

THAT WAS HIS MESSAGE.
HE WAS STILL TOO ASHAMED TO FACE YOU, SO HE WENT AHEAD TO THE AFTERLIFE.

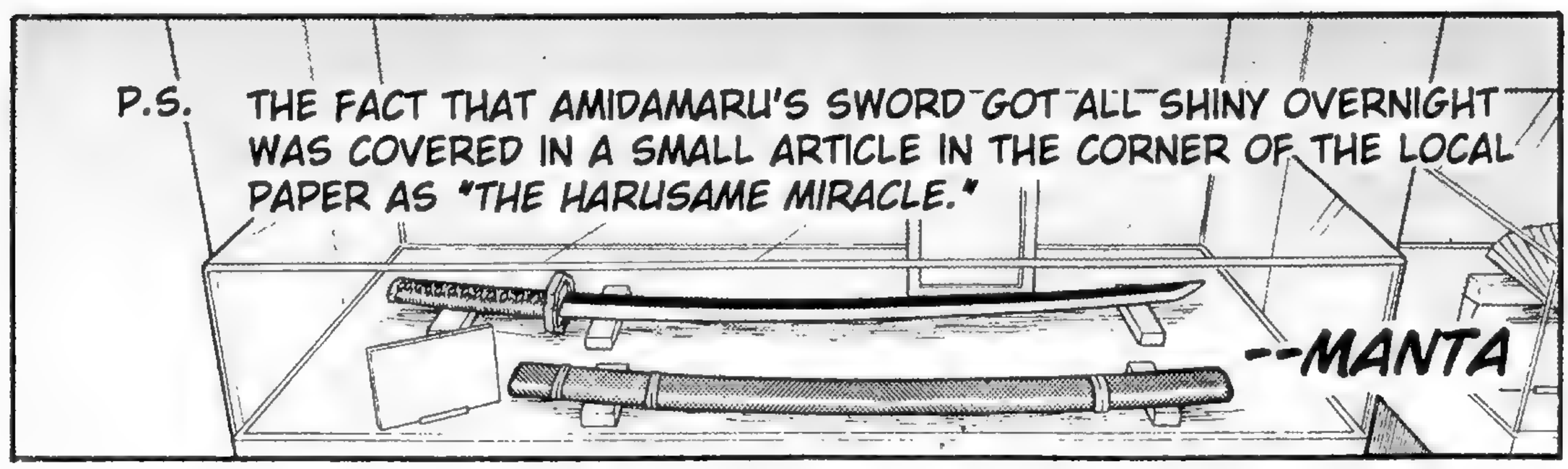

...AFTER LETTING ME WAIT 600 YEARS!
AFTER SO LONG, IT'S A MIRACLE... THAT HE STILL HADN'T RESTED IN PEACE, AND HE WOULD GET THIS SWORD TO ME NOW...





AND SO, AMIDAMARU BECAME YOH'S PARTNER.
HE MUST'VE BEEN FASCINATED BY THE SHAMAN'S ABILITIES TOO...
AS WAS I.

P.S. THE FACT THAT AMIDAMARU'S SWORD GOT ALL SHINY OVERNIGHT WAS COVERED IN A SMALL ARTICLE IN THE CORNER OF THE LOCAL PAPER AS "THE HARUSAME MIRACLE."



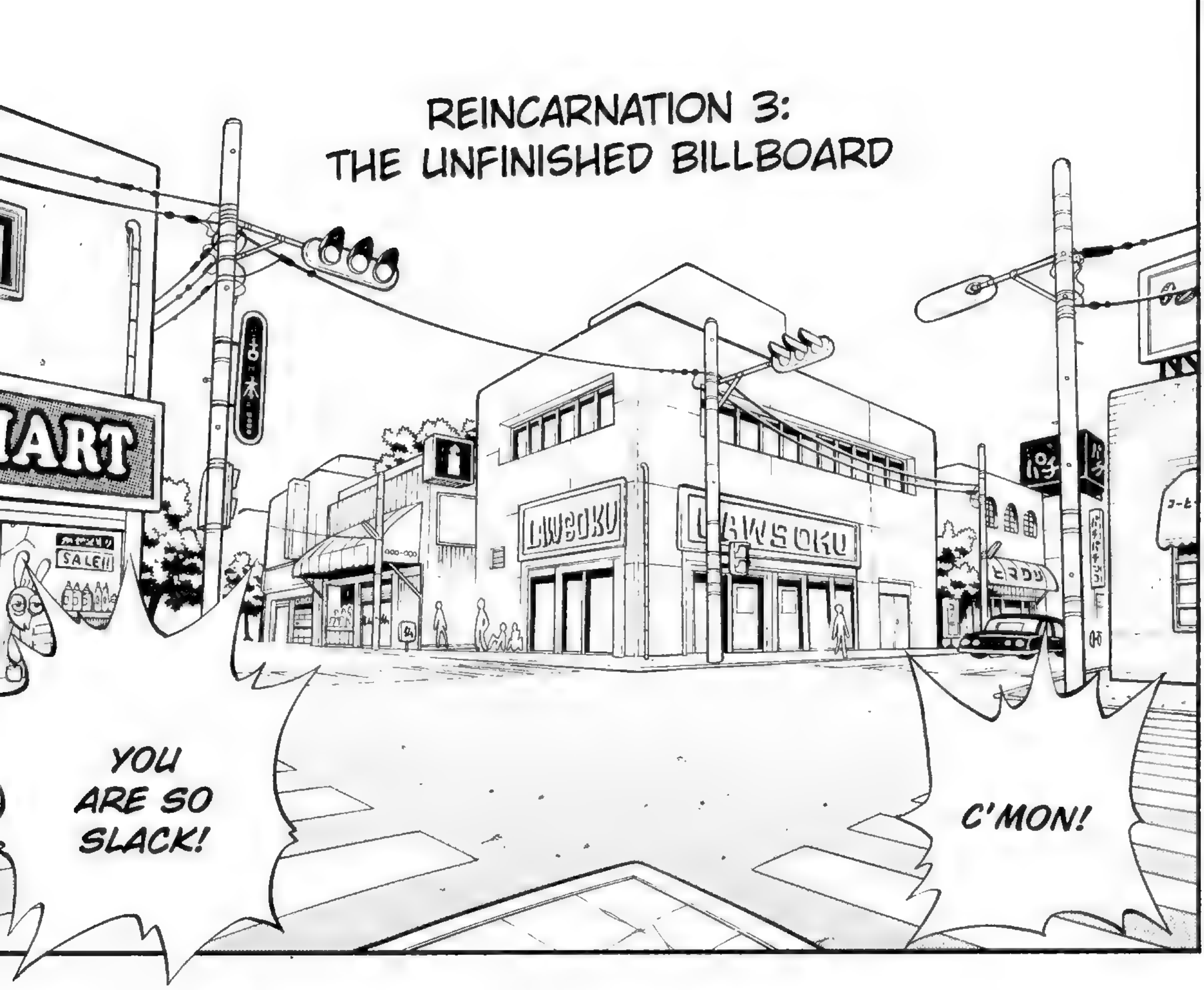
--MANTA

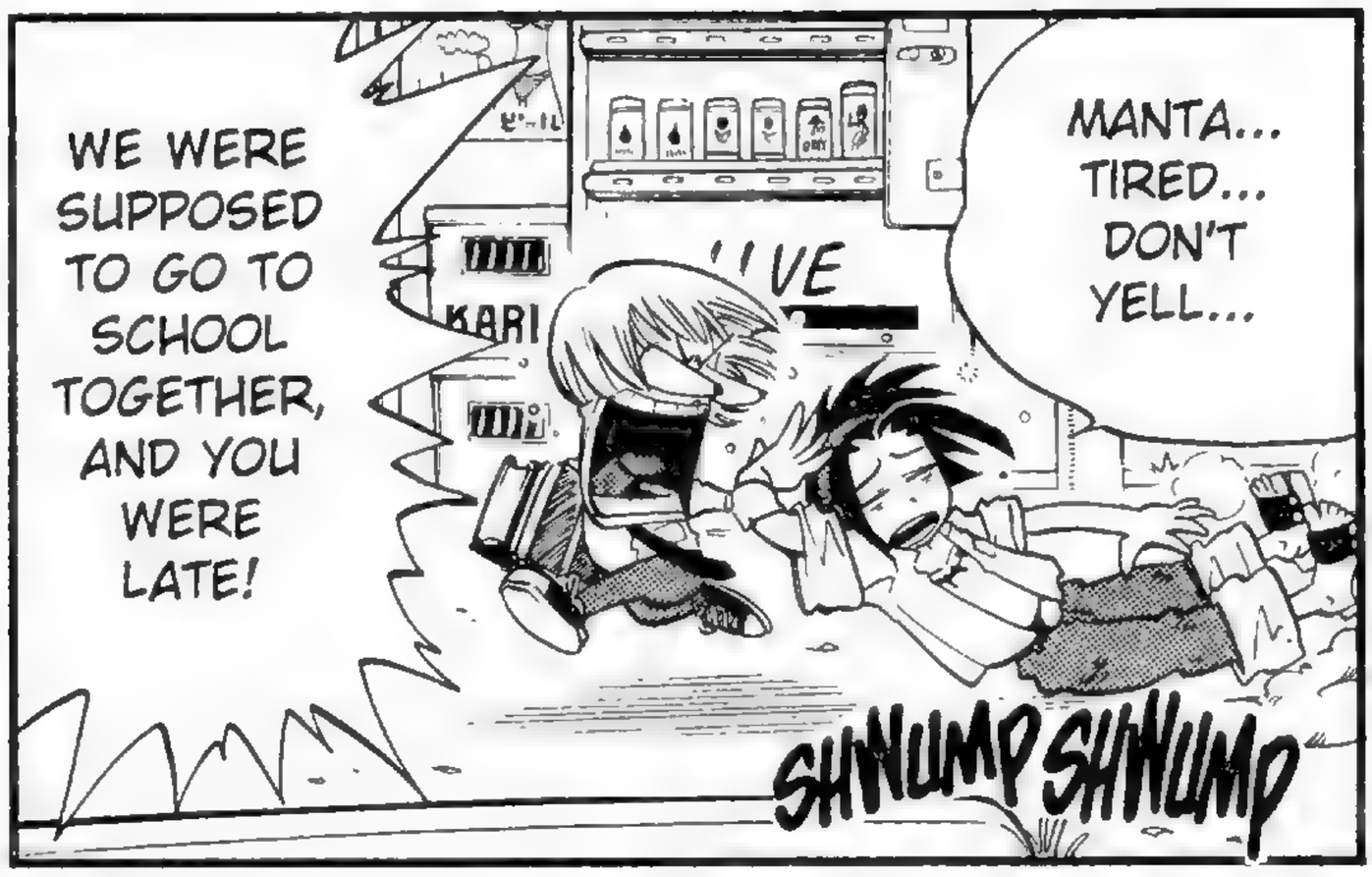
SHAMAN KING

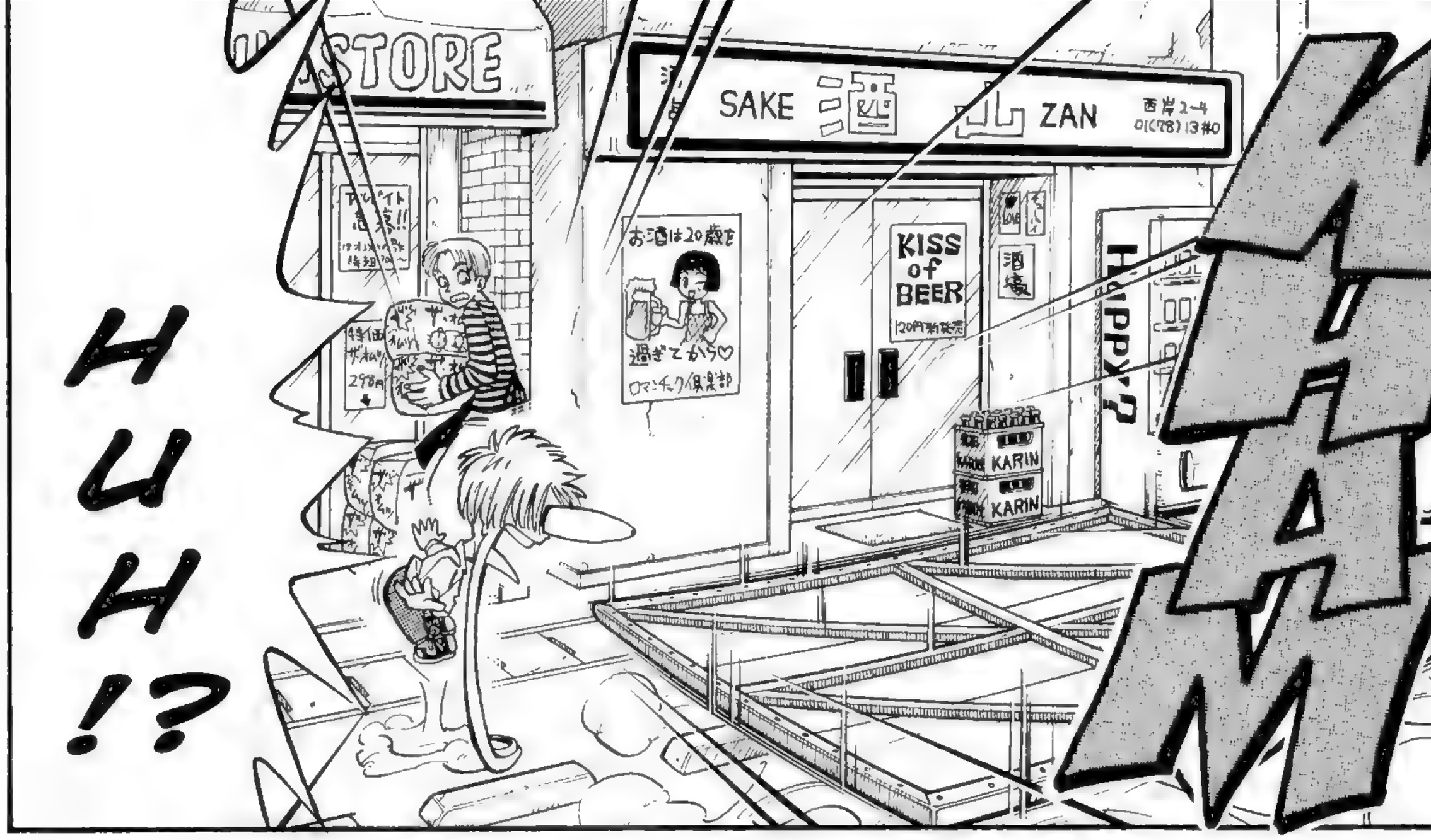
1

HEADPHONES

REINCARNATION 3: THE UNFINISHED BILLBOARD





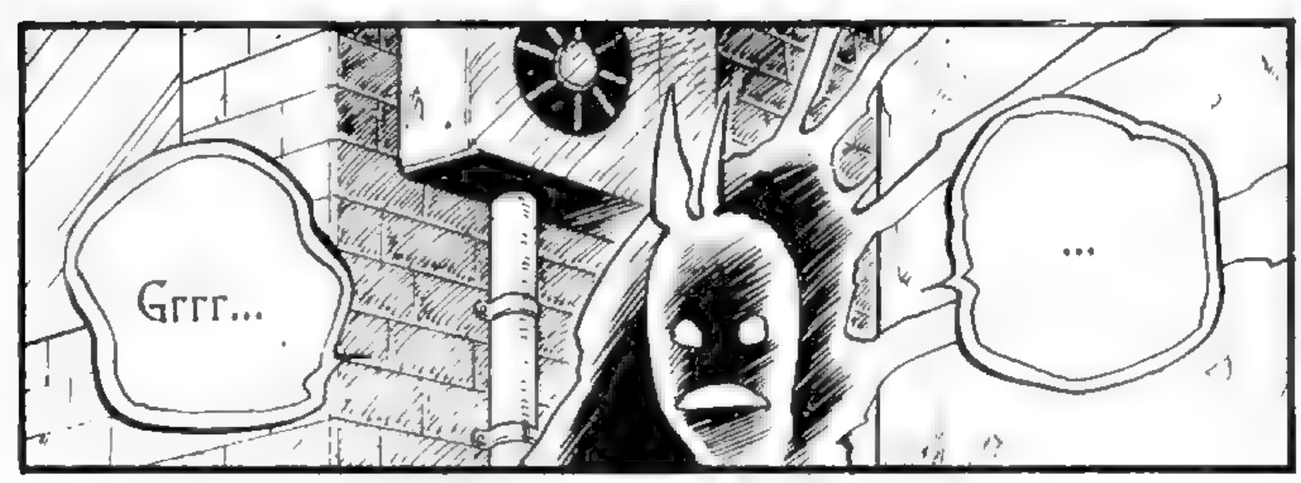

STORE
SAKE 酒 山 ZAN
お酒は20歳を
過ぎてから♡
KISS of BEER
酒場
KARIN
KARIN
H U H H !?
H A A A A A

YOH!?
Y--

OH MY GOD!
OH NO! THAT BILLBOARD JUST CRUSHED THAT BOY!
WHAT HAPPEN-ED!?

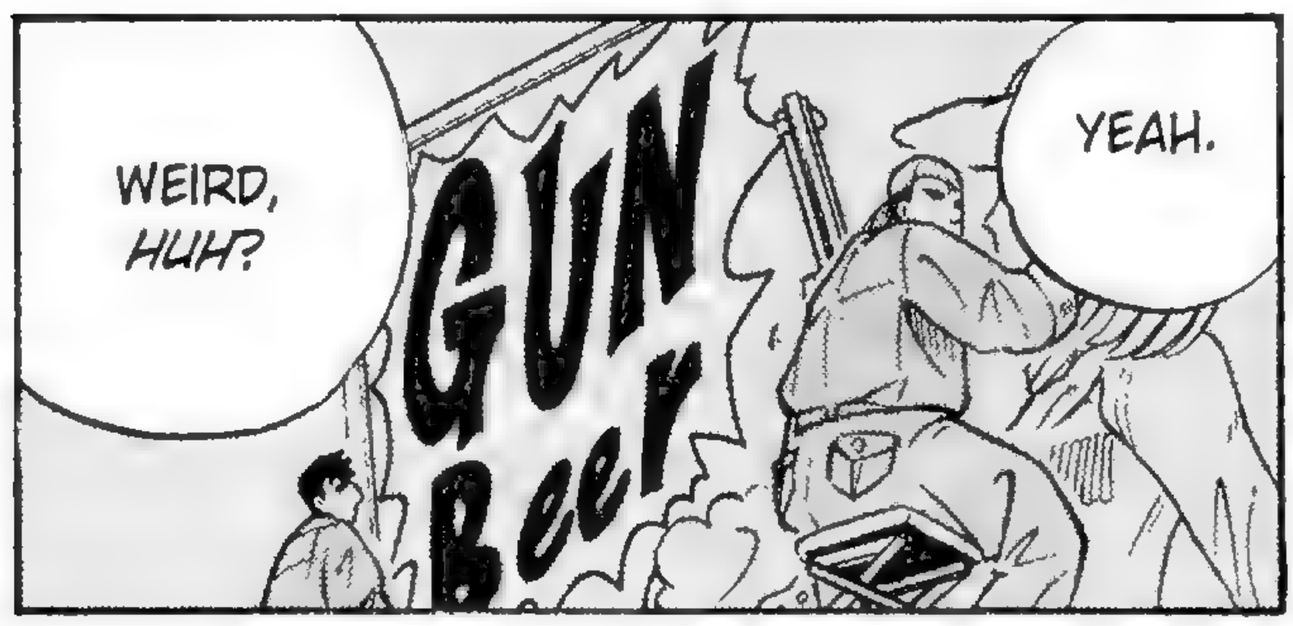
WSP
WSP
WSP
THAT SIGN'S A HAZARD!
DRUGSTORE
SAKE
THAT GAVE ME A FRIGHT.

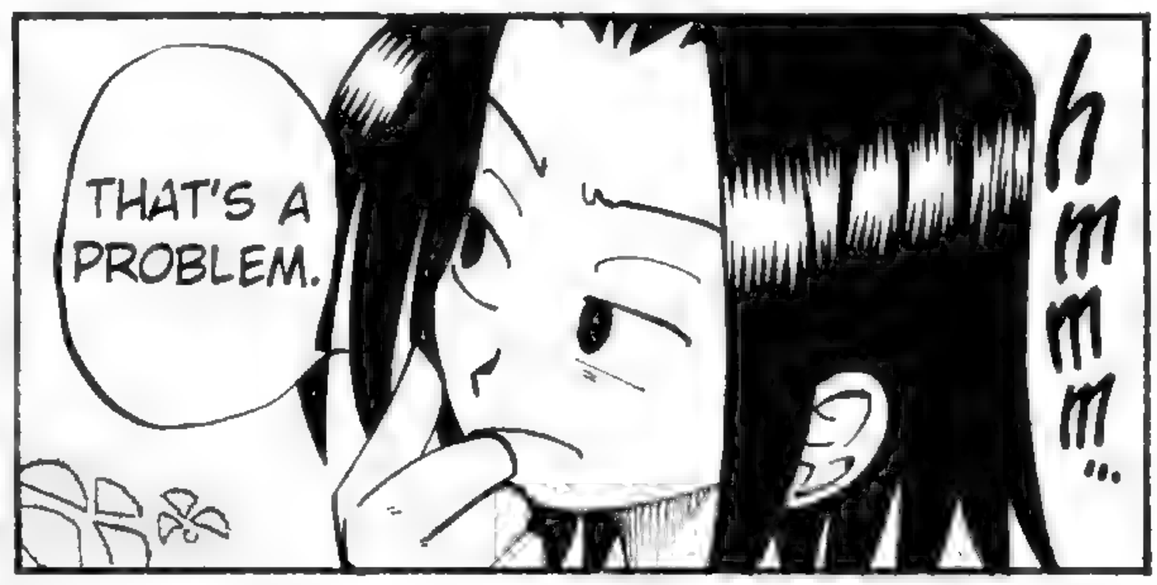
KARIN
KARIN
HI.
BONK
YOU'RE ALIVE!?

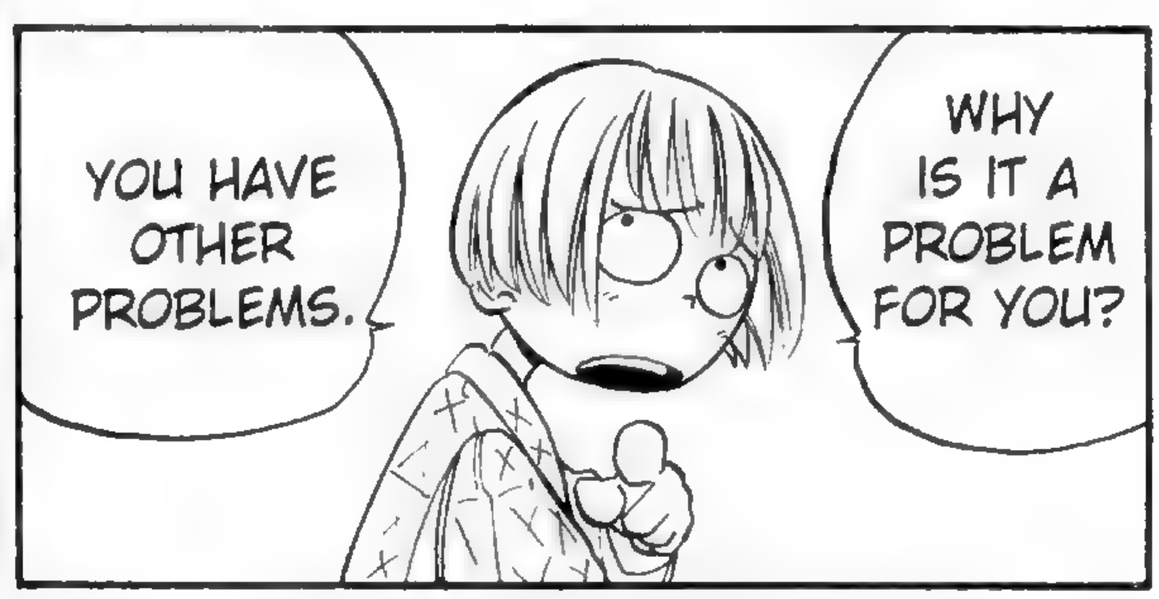

Grrr...
...

Reincarnation 3: THE UNFINISHED BILLBOARD

*SIGN: SHINRA PRIVATE ACADEMY







* SIGN: SCHOLARSHIP AND SPORT

AMIDAMARU!?

PASS!

A SIMPLE MATTER.

BOOM

YAAAH!

YOU KNOW, VARIOUS NON-CORPOREAL CONSULTANTS THAT ARE INDISPENSABLE FOR SCHOOL LIFE!

SUZUKI HERE WAS THE SMARTEST KID IN HIS CLASS...UNTIL HE COMMITTED SUICIDE FIVE YEARS AGO BECAUSE OF MERCILESS BULLYING...

KOBAYASHI WAS CAPTAIN OF THE TRACK TEAM...BUT HE GOT HIT BY A MOTORCYCLE DURING A RACE.

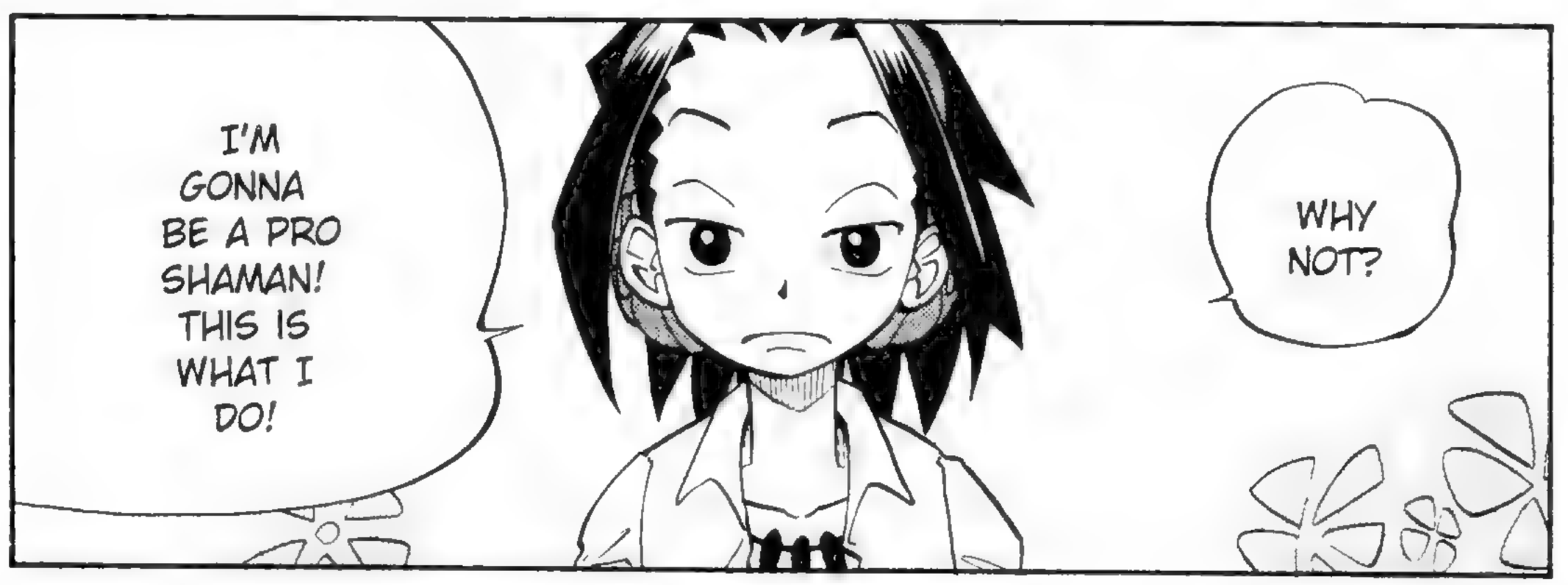
POOR ASHIDA WAS A VISUAL ARTS CLUB AND MANGA SOCIETY MEMBER WHO DIED BECAUSE HE STAYED UP 15 NIGHTS STRIGHT...

YOU CAN'T LET OTHER PEOPLE'S GHOSTS DO IT ALL FOR YOU!

YEAH! SCHOOL IS ABOUT DEVELOPING YOUR OWN ABILITIES!

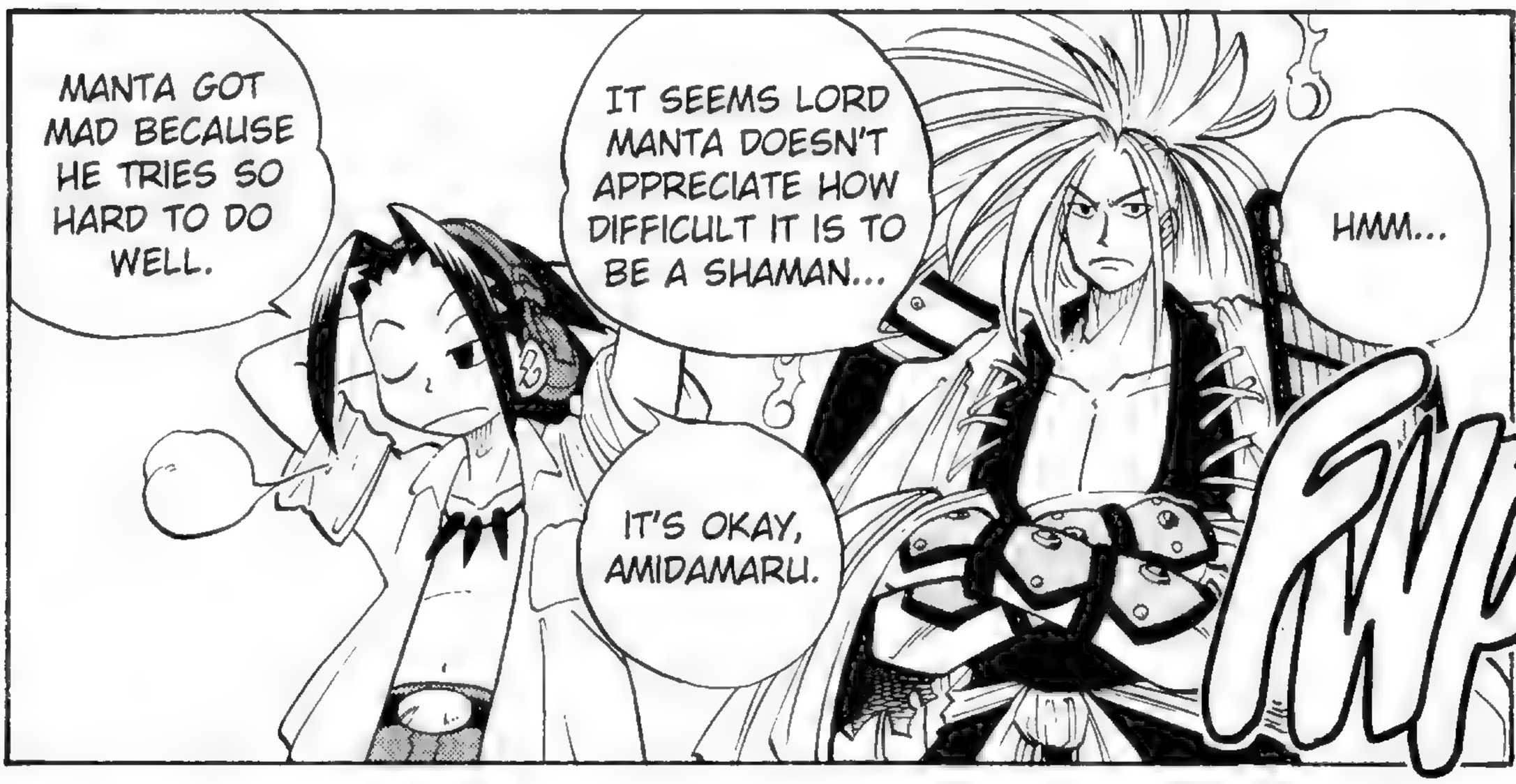
...A CHEATER?

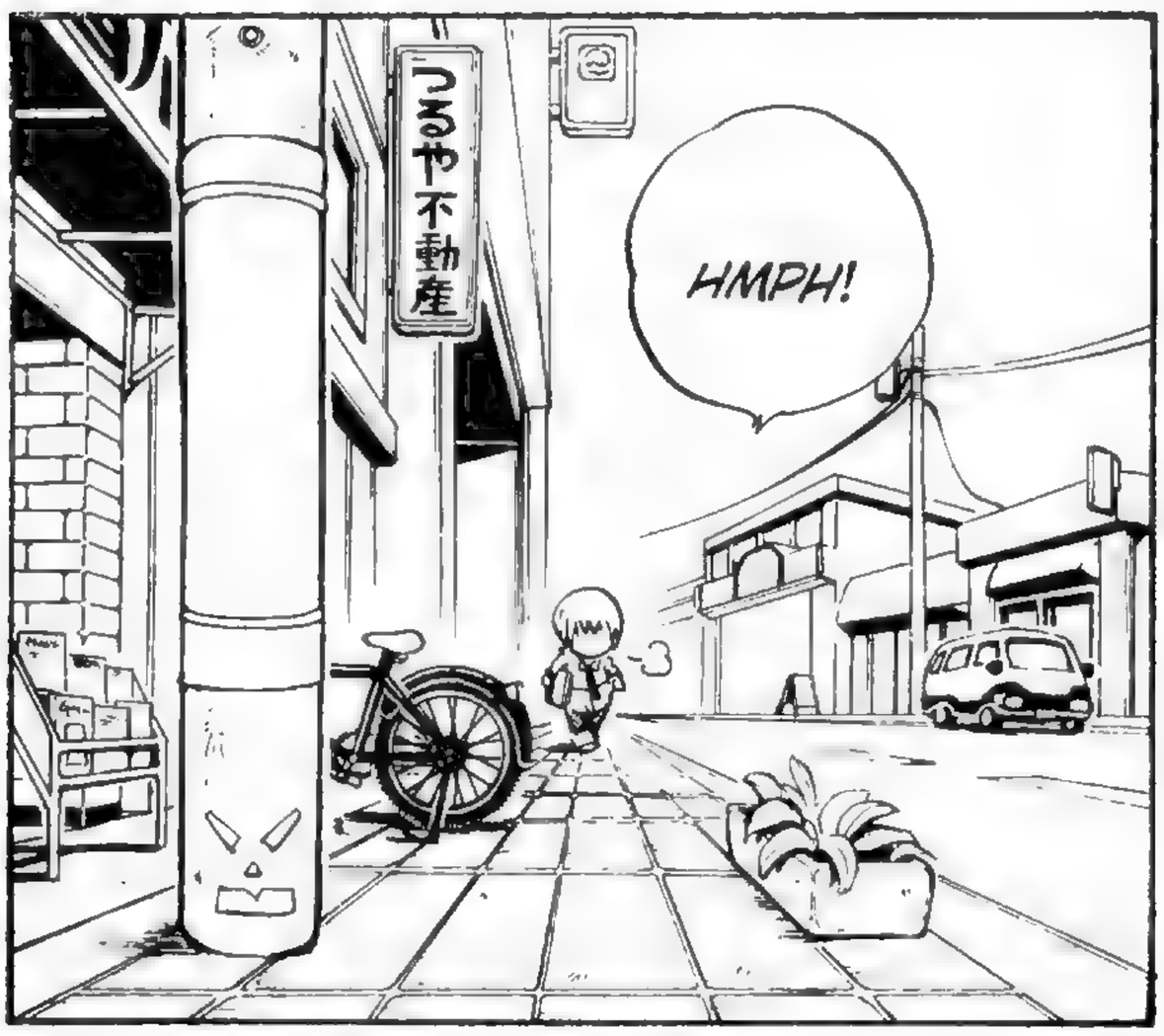
YOU'RE A CHEATER!

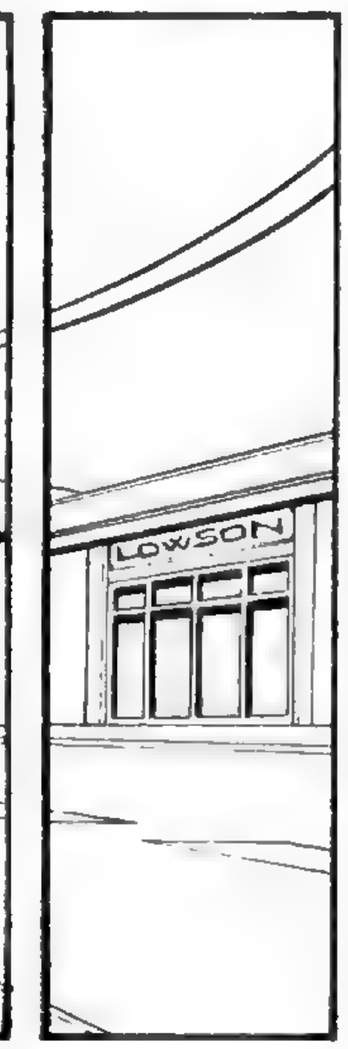


I THOUGHT YOUR SHAMAN THING WAS PRETTY COOL...
...BUT YOU'RE JUST A LAZY CHEATER!
Hey!
HEY! MANTA...
VOOM
AAH!

KROMP
I'M DIS-APPOINTED IN YOU!


MANTA GOT MAD BECAUSE HE TRIES SO HARD TO DO WELL.
IT SEEMS LORD MANTA DOESN'T APPRECIATE HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO BE A SHAMAN...
IT'S OKAY, AMIDAMARU.
HMM...
KRP


つるや不動産
HMPH!


LOWSON

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I'M CURIOUS ABOUT.
COULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR?

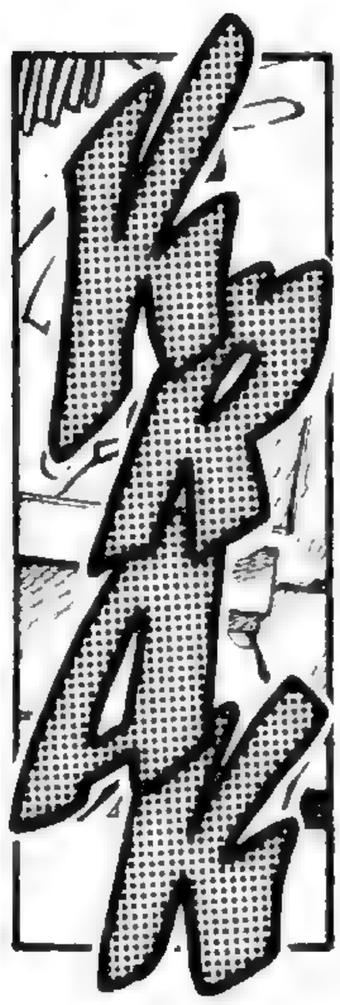
HMM...BUT WHEN WE WERE CHANGING CLOTHES...
...

HE WANTS TO DO IT ALL THE EASY WAY!
WHAT KIND OF PRO IS THAT!?
sigh,
I'VE HAD IT WITH THAT GUY.

HE PROBABLY STUMBLES INTO BUSHES A LOT...
NAH, HE COULDN'T FOCUS LONG ENOUGH.
PFFT!

...I SAW FRESH SCRATCHES ALL OVER HIM.
MAYBE HE WORKS OUT REALLY HARD!!

HUH?


Kk

GUN
Beep
I MEAN, HE EVEN GETS FLATTENED BY BILLBOARDS...
SAKE
ZAN

JUMP THIS WAY!

OH!

KRENGER

WAAH!

F WAM

PROTECT ME?

LORD YOH ASKED ME TO PROTECT YOU.

YES...

BREEN

AMIDA-MARU!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?

THAT WAS CLOSE, LORD MANTA.

GASP

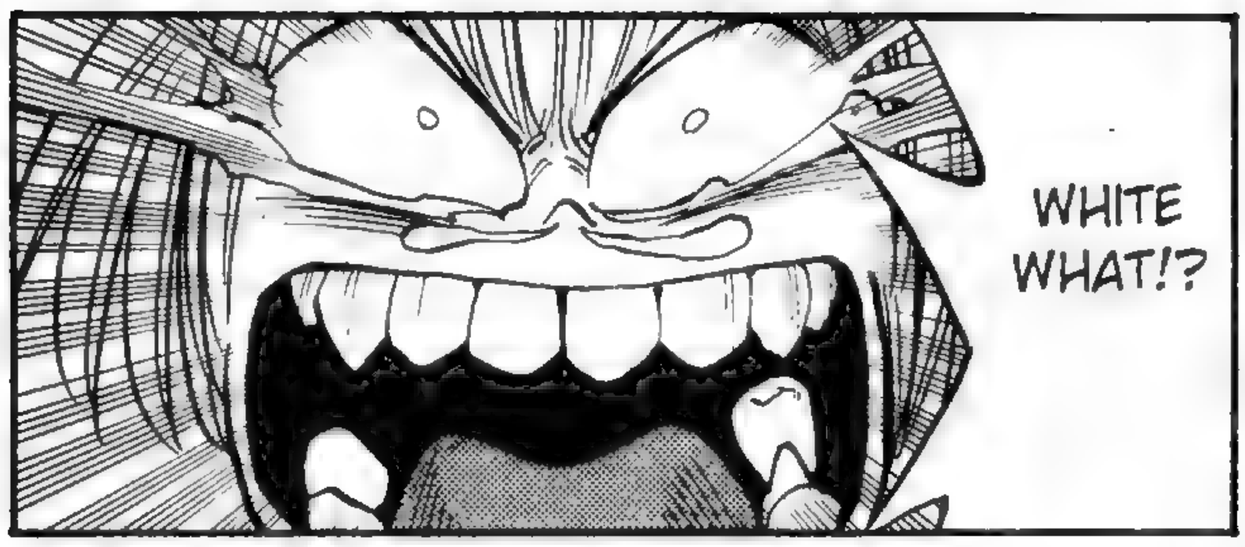
AM...

HEY!

...THAT HAUNTS THIS BILLBOARD!

SAKE

FROM THE EVIL SPIRIT...


WHITE WHAT!?

!

STAY BACK, LORD MANTA!
AS I THOUGHT, THIS IS A FOUL FIXATED GHOST!

WHITE!
EEK!

GRAMMBB

YOU MEAN *THAT* USED TO BE HUMAN!?

FIXATED GHOST!?

IF THOSE EMOTIONS ARE MALICIOUS, THEN ITS FORM WILL BE MALICIOUS.

ERRG

YES.

BUT A GHOST IS, IN EFFECT, A MASS OF SWIRLING EMOTION!

...HE TRIES TO MAKE HIMSELF KNOWN TO ANYONE WHO HAS ANY SECOND SIGHT... AND SUCK THEM IN!

KSS KSS

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, BUT ONCE A GHOST IS FIXED TO ONE PLACE...

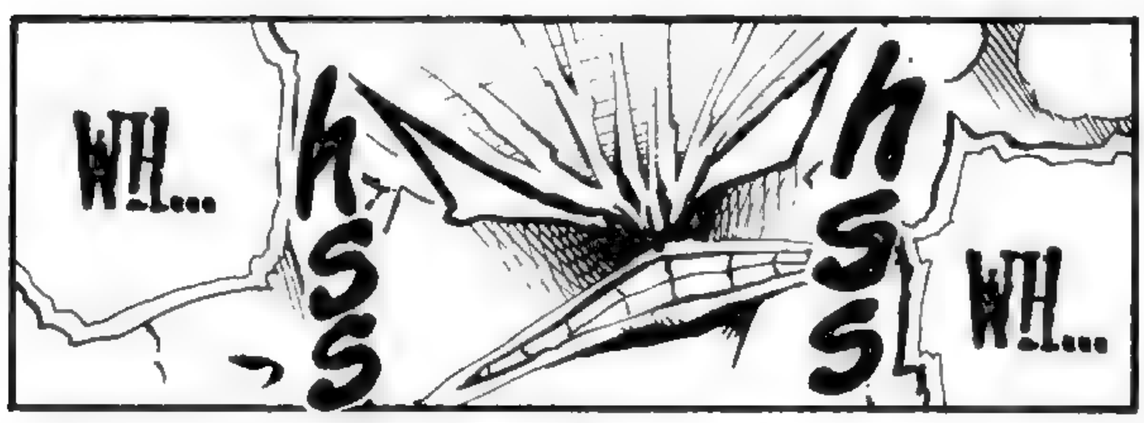
MANY PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED SUDDEN, VIOLENT DEATHS DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY DIED. THEIR EMOTIONS GO OUT OF CONTROL AND THEY BECOME FIXATED GHOSTS.

NOT JUST HERE.

SUCK...IN!? I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE DANGEROUS GHOSTS ALL OVER TOWN!

HE HAS TO DEAL WITH THESE EVIL GHOSTS EVERYWHERE HE GOES!?
YOU MEAN... YOH SEES THEM ALL THE TIME!?

...BECAUSE YOU ONLY HAVE A LITTLE SECOND SIGHT!
THIS IS BUT ONE EXAMPLE THAT YOU SEE, LORD MANTA...
...!


WH...
hSS
hSS
WH...

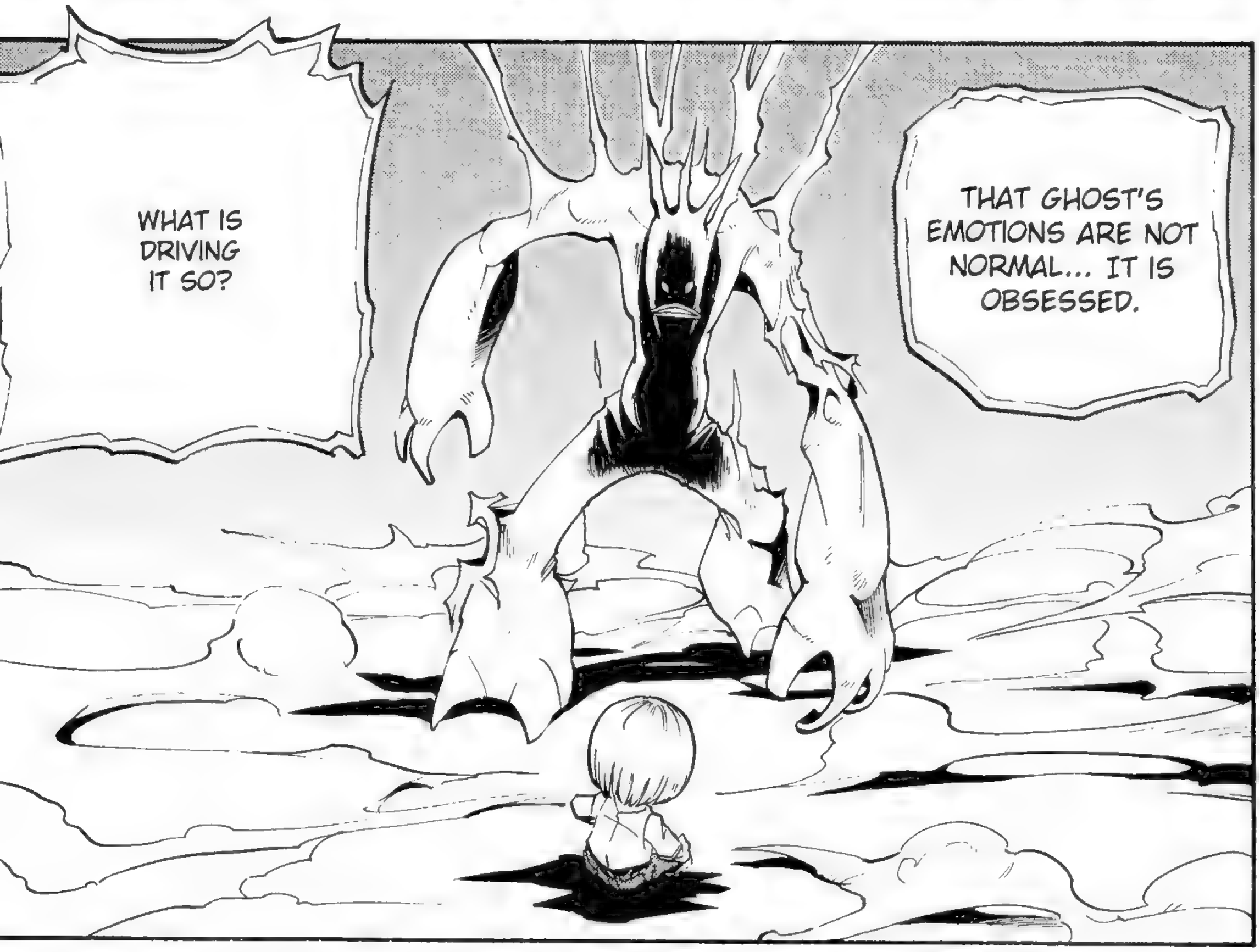
BUT THIS ONE IS SO...
HUFFHUFF
YES ...

WHITE!
!!

IT'S THE STRENGTH OF THEIR EMOTIONS!
WHAT DECIDES A BATTLE BETWEEN GHOSTS ISN'T SKILLS OR MUSCLE.

HOW-EVER...
UUH! I'M UNINJURED.

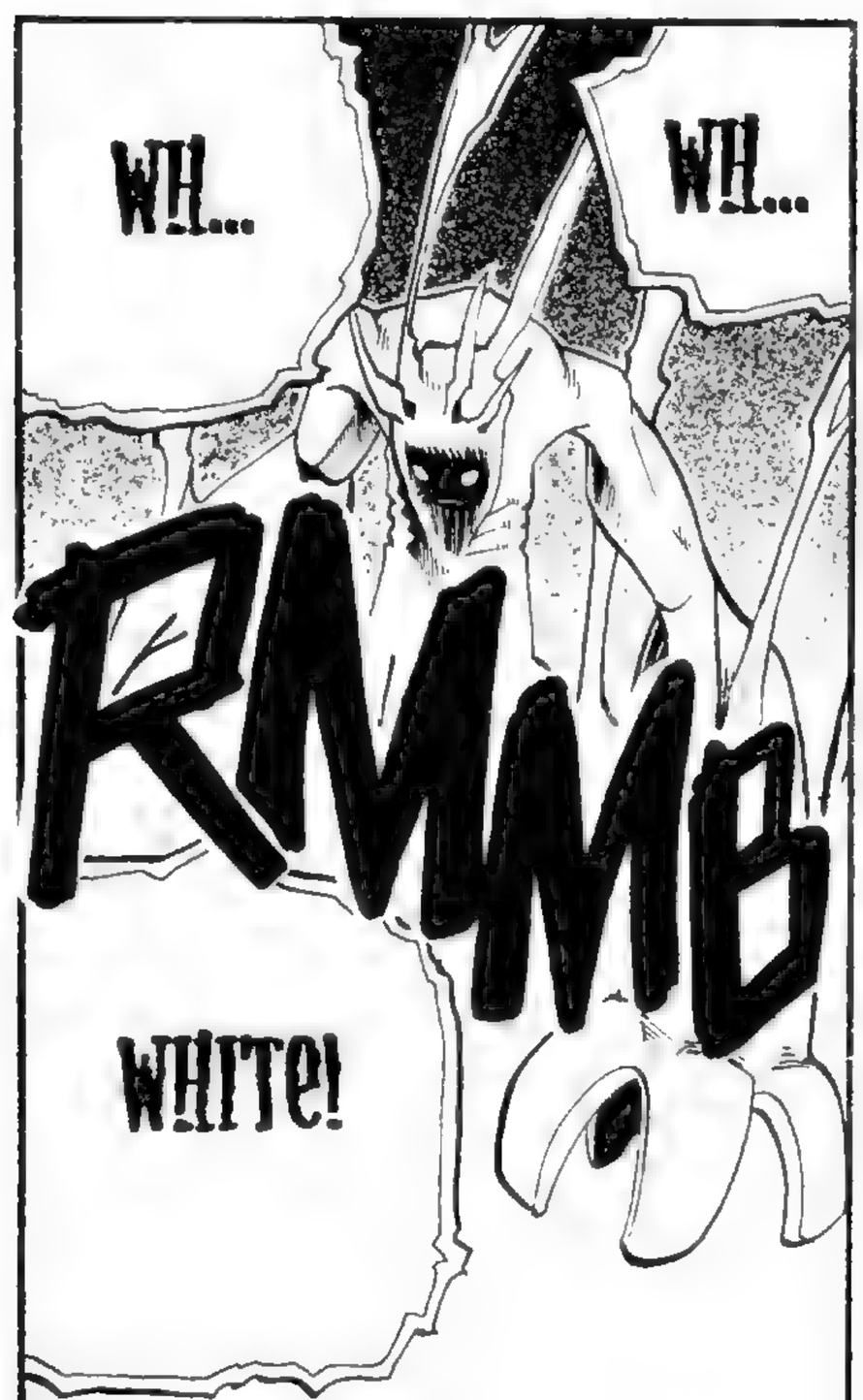
AAAAH!
AMIDA-MARU!?

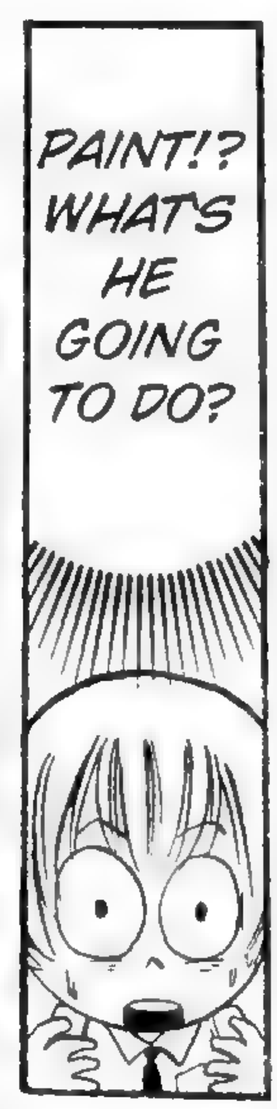

WHAT IS DRIVING IT SO?
THAT GHOST'S EMOTIONS ARE NOT NORMAL... IT IS OBSESSED.

IS THIS THE WHITE YOU WANT?

WHITE!
WHITE!
WH—

!
I BROUGHT YOU SOME WHITE PAINT.
LORD YOH!
Y-YOH?
TUMP
WHITE!?
WH-


WH...
WH...
RMMB
WHITE!


PAINT!? WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO?

...AND TRACKED DOWN ROAMING APPARITIONS... WHAT A HEADACHE!
FINDING OUT ABOUT YOU WAS A REAL PAIN.
I TALKED TO THE NEIGH-BORS...

WHITE!!

THWAK

BLOOD!

plip

!!

...YOU REACHED FOR THE WHITE PAINT, LOST YOUR BALANCE, AND FELL ONTO THE ROAD WITH YOUR STEPLADDER.

LAST YEAR, WHILE YOU WERE PAINTING THIS BILL-BOARD...

AND YOU GOT RUN OVER BY A TRUCK... IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST.

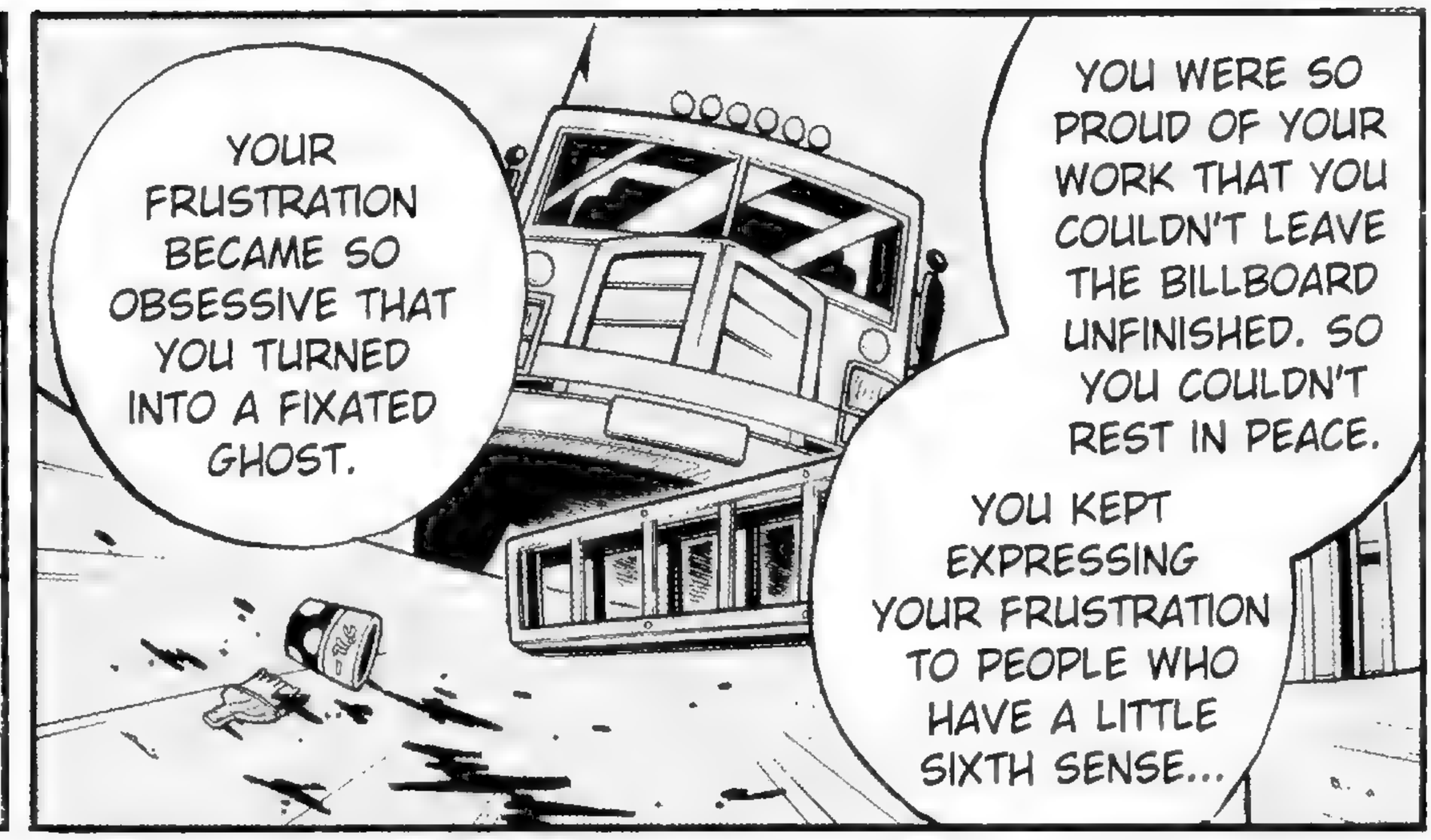
HE LET THE GHOST HIT HIM ON PURPOSE.

WHAT'S YOH DOING!?

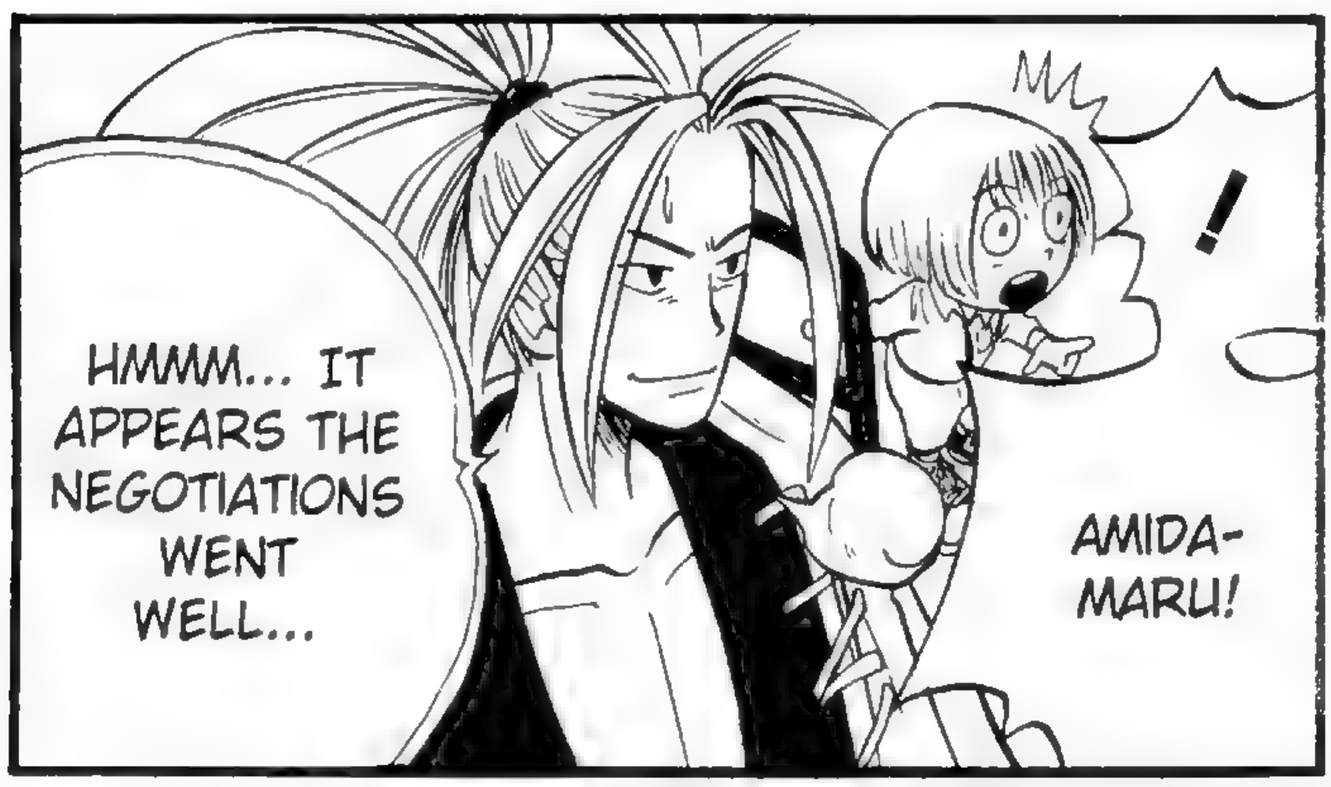
...BY LETTING HIM TOUCH WHAT HE WOULD NORMALLY BE UNABLE TO.

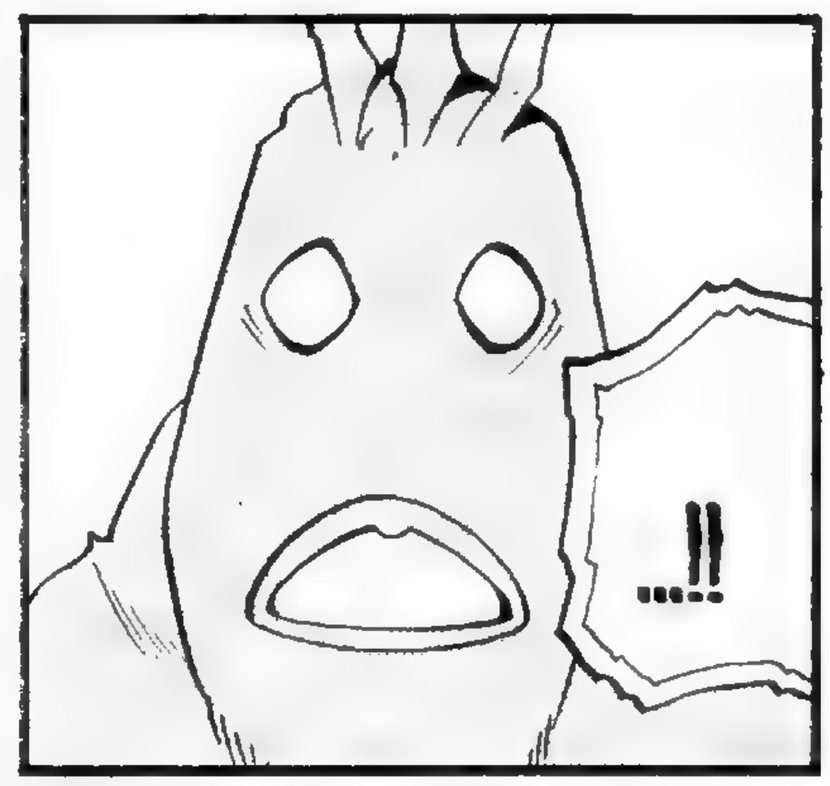
GHOSTS AND PEOPLE NORMALLY EXIST ON SEPARATE PLANES. HE SHOWED THE GHOST THAT A SHAMAN EXISTS ON BOTH PLANES...

WELL...

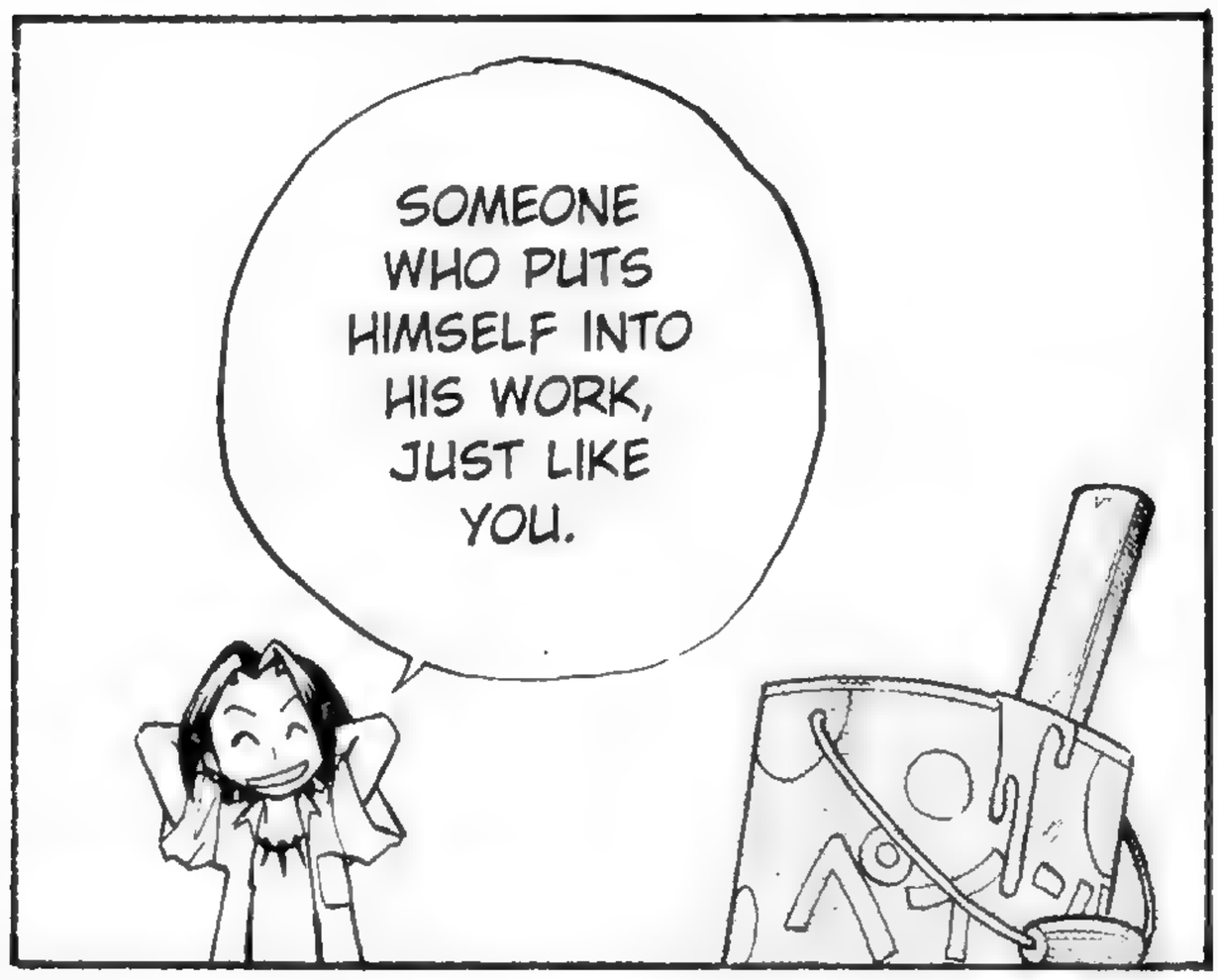

YOUR FRUSTRATION BECAME SO OBSESSIVE THAT YOU TURNED INTO A FIXATED GHOST.
YOU WERE SO PROUD OF YOUR WORK THAT YOU COULDN'T LEAVE THE BILLBOARD UNFINISHED. SO YOU COULDN'T REST IN PEACE.
YOU KEPT EXPRESSING YOUR FRUSTRATION TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE A LITTLE SIXTH SENSE...

YOU CAN USE MY BODY, KANTA THE BILLBOARD PAINTER.
ONE OF MY JOBS AS A SHAMAN IS TO DEAL WITH NUISANCES LIKE YOU.

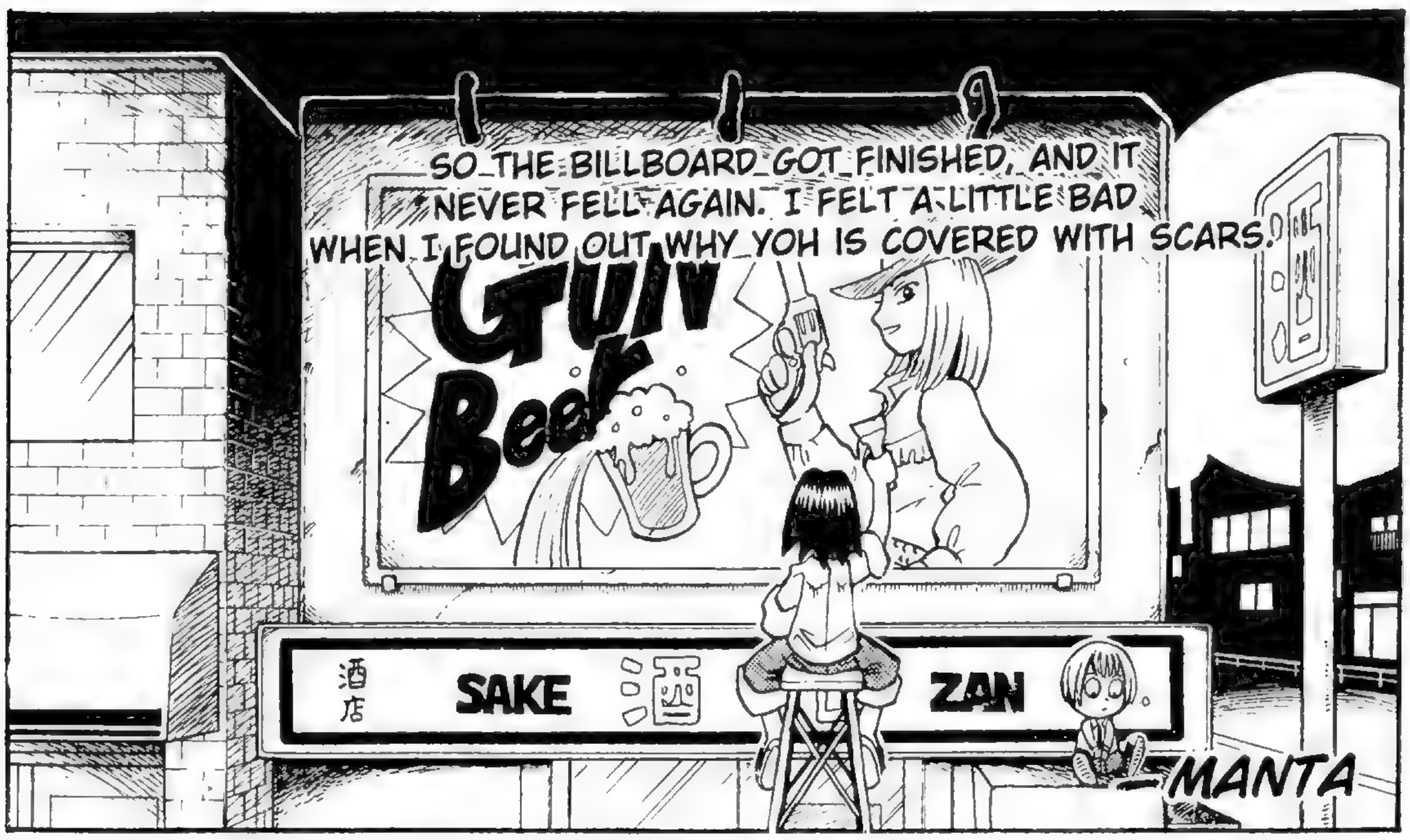

HMMM... IT APPEARS THE NEGOTIATIONS WENT WELL...
!
AMIDA-MARU!


...!!

CAN YOU REALLY DO THAT? WHO ARE YOU?
CAN...


SOMEONE WHO PUTS HIMSELF INTO HIS WORK, JUST LIKE YOU.

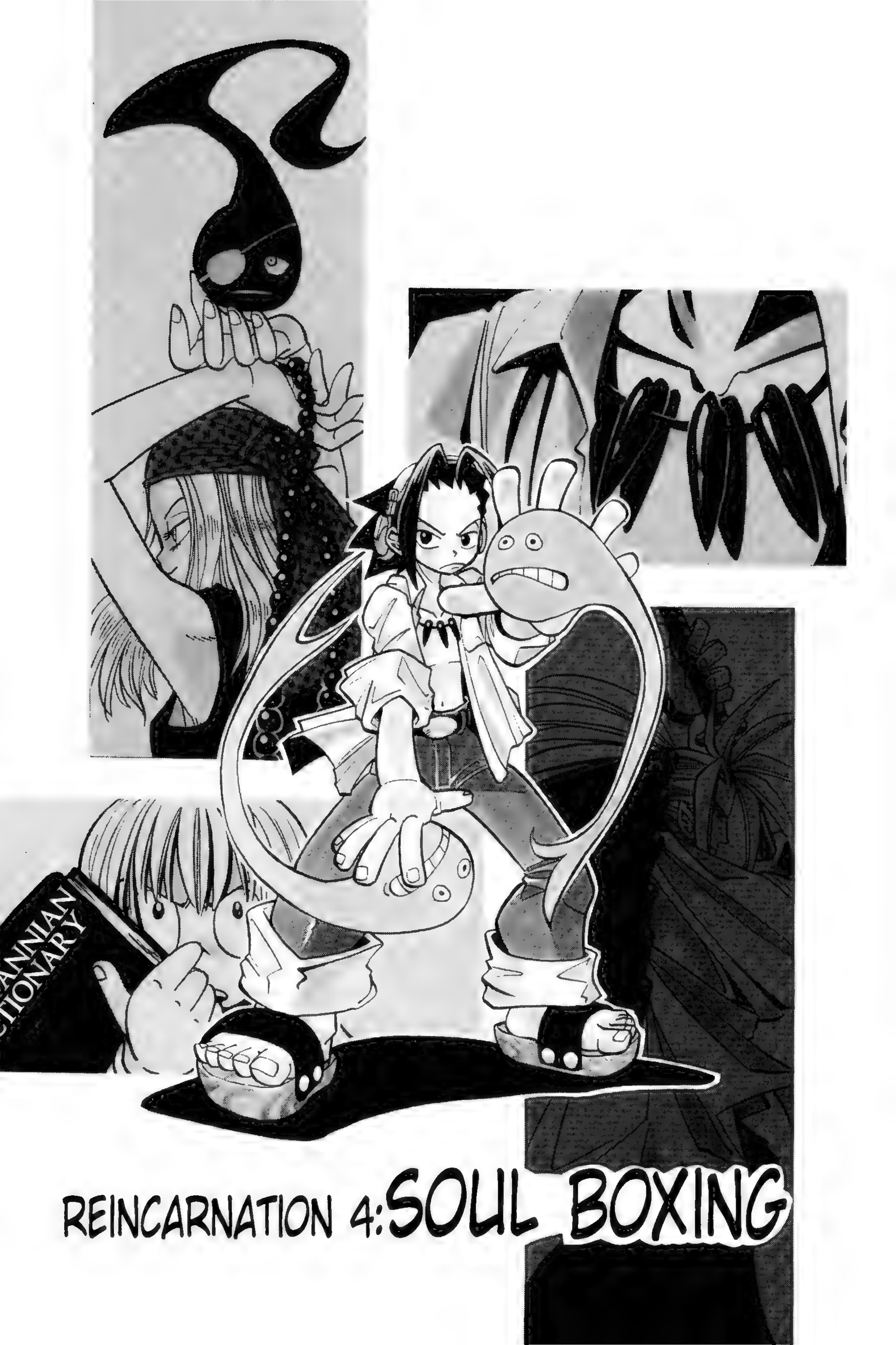
HE HAS REMEMBERED HIS TRUE FORM.
...!


SO THE BILLBOARD GOT FINISHED, AND IT NEVER FELL AGAIN. I FELT A LITTLE BAD WHEN I FOUND OUT WHY YOH IS COVERED WITH SCARS.
GUN Beer
酒店
SAKE
ZAN
MANTA

SHAMAN KING CHARACTER FILE No.2

AMIDAMARU

- Age (at Time of Death): 24
- Birthday: January 6
- Star Sign: Capricorn
- Blood Type: A
- Amidamaru's name is a combination of *Amida* (part of a Buddhist prayer) and *maru* (a common name ending for samurai).



REINCARNATION 4: SOUL BOXING

MANTA OYAMANDA'S SHAMAN SYMPOSIUM

PAY ATTENTION, THERE WILL BE A TEST!

MANTANNAN DICTIONARY

WHAT IS A "SHAMAN"?

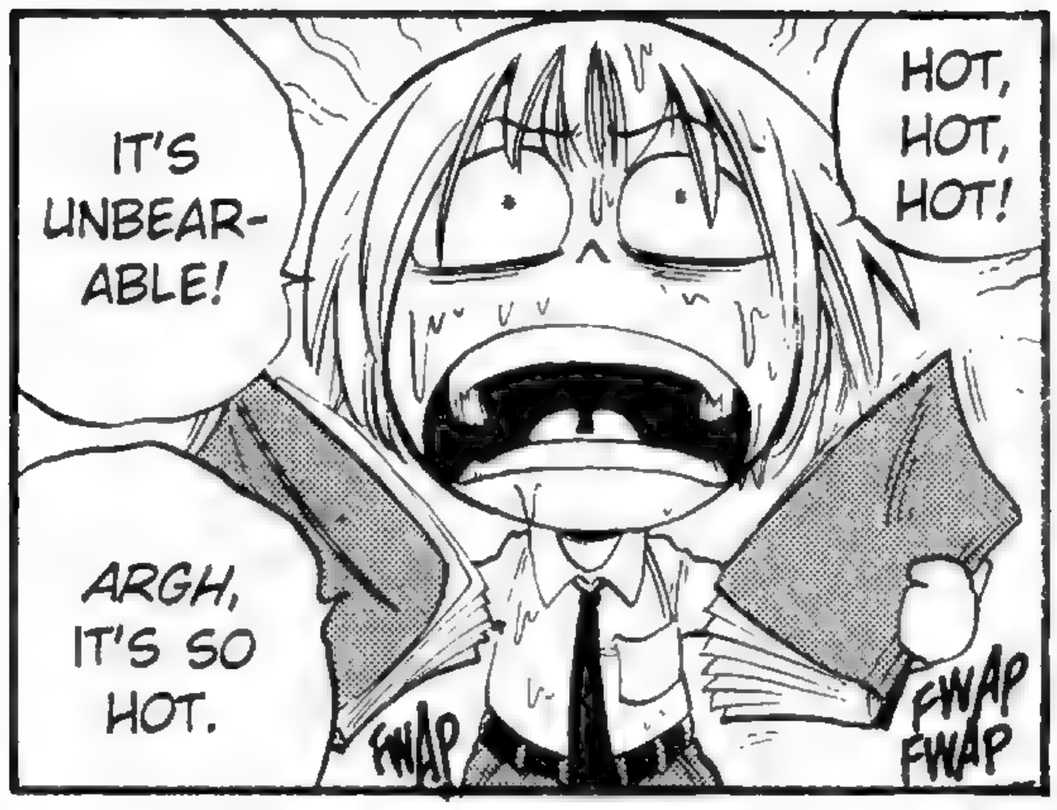
A SHAMAN IS A PERSON WHO CAN INTERFACE WITH THE WORLD OF GODS AND SPIRITS, WHICH ALLOWS THEM TO DO AMAZING THINGS. THEY CAN ASK THE GODS FOR WISDOM, BORROW THE POWER OF THE SPIRITS TO HEAL THE SICK, AND SUMMON THE GHOSTS OF THE DEAD INTO THIS WORLD. OF COURSE, BY CONTACTING THE DEAD, THEY CAN ALSO SPEAK WITH THE GREAT FIGURES OF HISTORY (THIS IS YOH'S ABILITY).

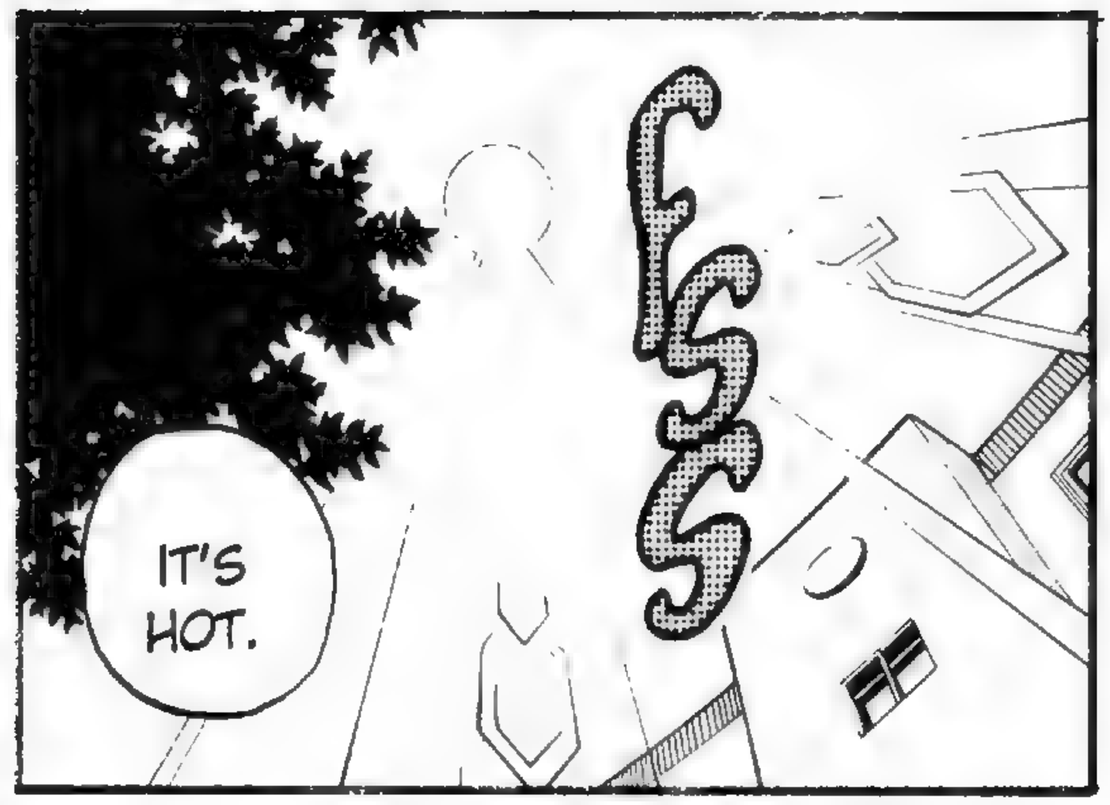
BECAUSE NOT EVERYONE CAN TALK WITH SPIRITS, SHAMANS HAVE BEEN REVERED SINCE THE EARLIEST TIMES, AND THEY STILL EXIST ALL OVER THE WORLD. THE MOST WELL-KNOWN SHAMANS ARE FOUND IN NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES, CHINA, AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA. IN JAPAN THERE ARE SPIRIT-SUMMONING SHAMANS CALLED **ITAKO** IN THE NORTHEAST REGIONS, AND THE **YUTA** IN THE AMAMI ISLANDS NORTH OF OKINAWA WHO TELL FORTUNES AND HEAL THE SICK WITH SPIRITUAL POWERS. BOTH WORK FOR THE PEOPLE'S GOOD AND ARE WELL RESPECTED.

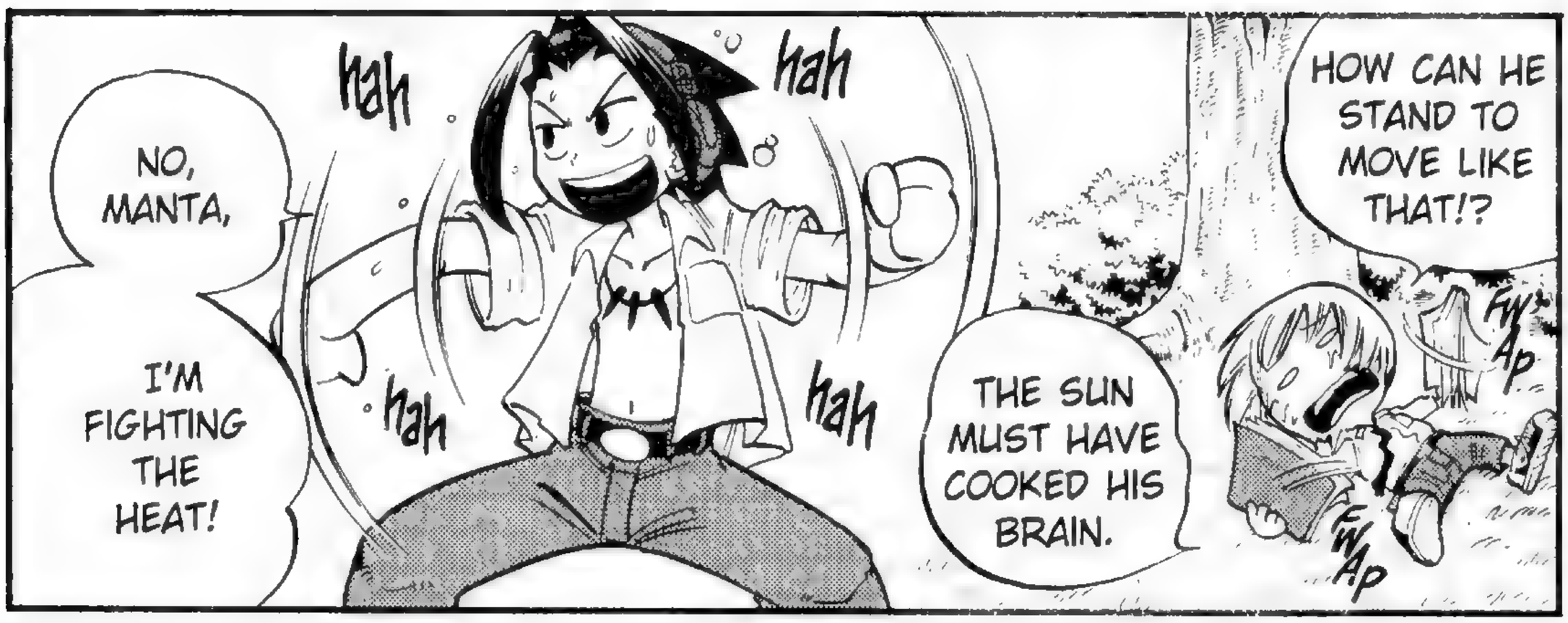
DID YOU THINK DEATH WAS THE END?

THERE ARE A LOT OF FEMALE SHA-MANS OUT THERE, TOO.

SHAMANS STILL EXIST ALL OVER THE WORLD!


IT'S UNBEAR-ABLE!
HOT, HOT, HOT!
ARGH, IT'S SO HOT.
FWAP
FWAP FWAP


IT'S HOT.
ssss


NO, MANTA,
I'M FIGHTING THE HEAT!
hah
hah
hah
hah
THE SUN MUST HAVE COOKED HIS BRAIN.
HOW CAN HE STAND TO MOVE LIKE THAT!?
FWAP
FWAP

KEEP AWAY FROM ME, YOU SWEATY PIG!!
!

THE HEAT'S ONLY UNBEARABLE BECAUSE YOU TRY TO RUN AWAY FROM IT.
I FACE IT HEAD-ON AND HAVE FUN WITH IT!
ha ha ha

aang
WHAT KIND OF DANCE IS THAT ANYWAY?
WHAT THE HECK?

AAAAAAAAAH!

WH--

WHAT DID I DO!?

OR DO YOU WANT SECONDS!?

SHUT UP, FATSO!

KOOM

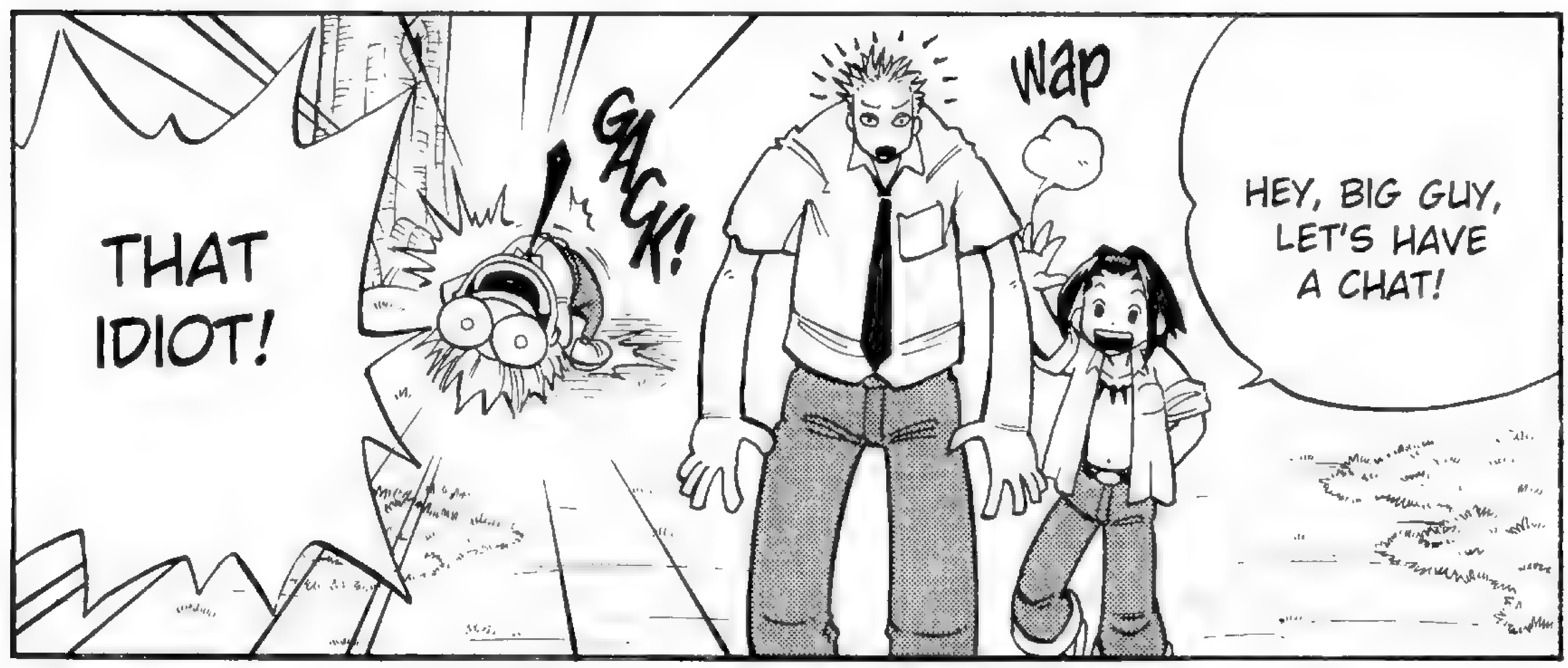
GUSSHI KENJI DISCOVERED TATSUSHI AND TRIED TO DEVELOP HIM...

GUSSHI KENJI WAS A BOXING CHAMPION WITH A DISTINCTIVE FIGHTING STANCE.

HE WAS THE GOD OF THE JAPANESE BOXING WORLD.

I GUESS.

COULD BE HANDY TO HAVE AROUND...
hmm...
THE GHOST OF A BOXING CHAMP, EH?


THAT IDIOT!
GACK!
Wap
HEY, BIG GUY, LET'S HAVE A CHAT!

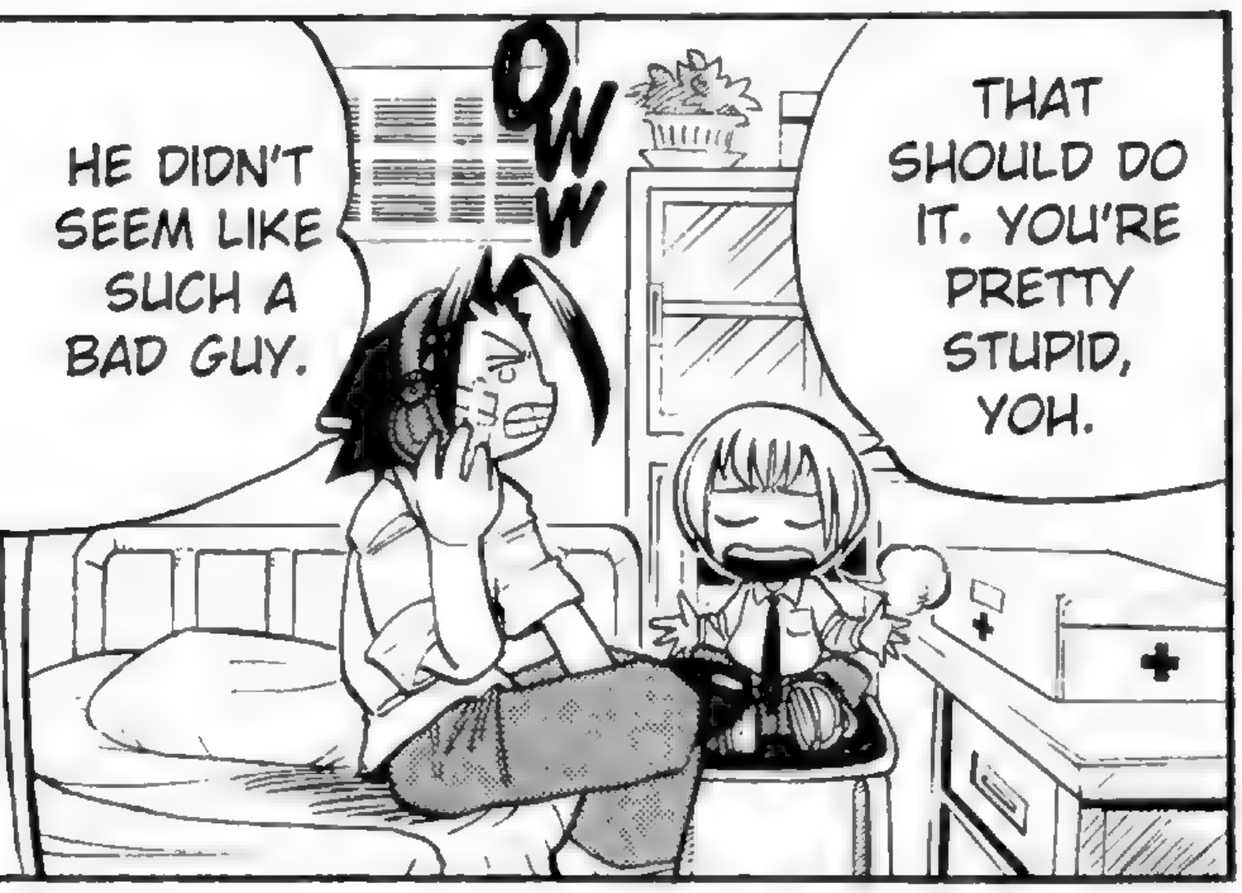
GRMP
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

HE'LL GET KILLED!
HE ONLY HEARD THE PART ABOUT THE CHAMP!
WAA
AAH!

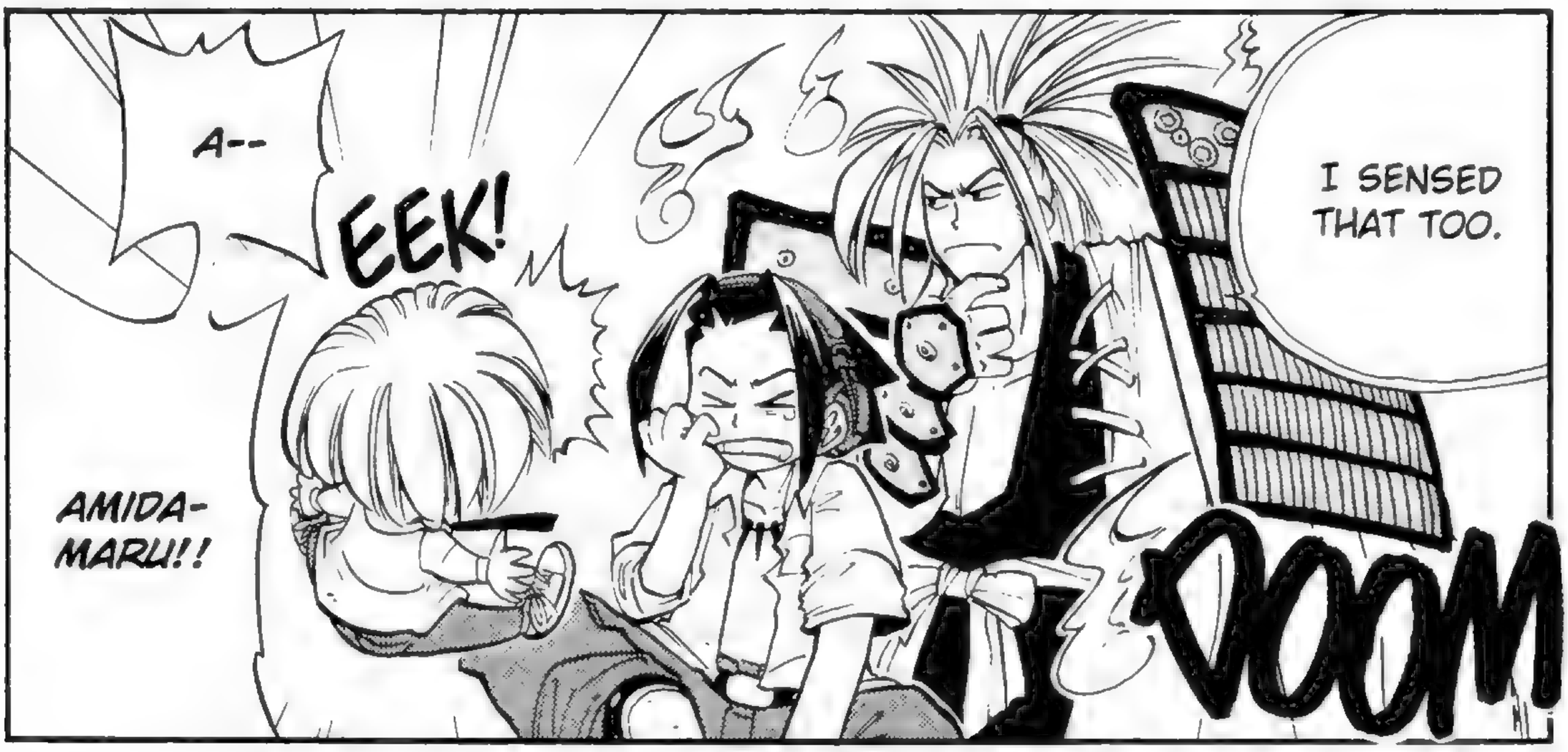
SWAK

LAY IT ON ME!
I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT GUSSHI, YOUR DEAD BOXING TEACHER!

SWAP!
NURSE
OW!


HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SUCH A BAD GUY.
THAT SHOULD DO IT. YOU'RE PRETTY STUPID, YOH.

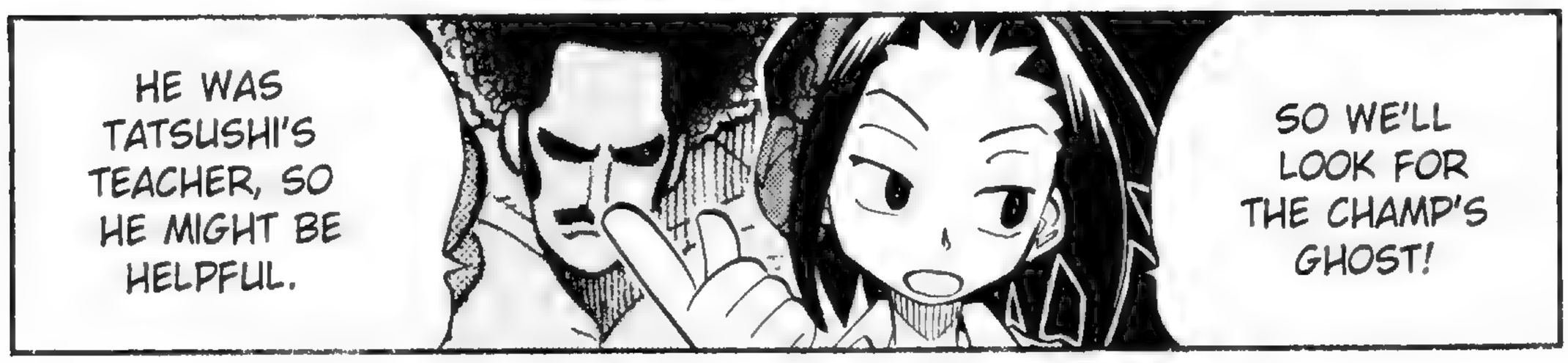
DON'T EVER MENTION THAT JERK'S NAME TO ME AGAIN!
IT MAKES ME SICK!
GRNCH


A--
EEK!
AMIDA-MARU!!
I SENSED THAT TOO.
DOOM

I SAW IN HIS EYES THAT HE HAS A FIGHTING SPIRIT.
THAT FIRE STILL SMOLDERS WITHIN HIM.
YOU DON'T THINK HE'S A BAD GUY EITHER?
I'M STILL NOT USED TO THESE SUDDEN APPEAR-ANCES.

HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY FAMILY OR FRIENDS...AND HE WON'T OPEN UP TO--
HA! NOT GONNA HAPPEN!
OF COURSE NOT...

AN EXCELLENT IDEA.
EXACTLY! LET'S FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS GUY!


HE WAS TATSUSHI'S TEACHER, SO HE MIGHT BE HELPFUL.
SO WE'LL LOOK FOR THE CHAMP'S GHOST!

BECAUSE, YOU KNOW...
SURE, IF HE'S STILL HAUNTING THIS WORLD.
WHAT!? THE GHOST OF GUSSHI KENJI!?

...IT ISN'T GOOD TO KEEP RUNNING AWAY FOREVER.

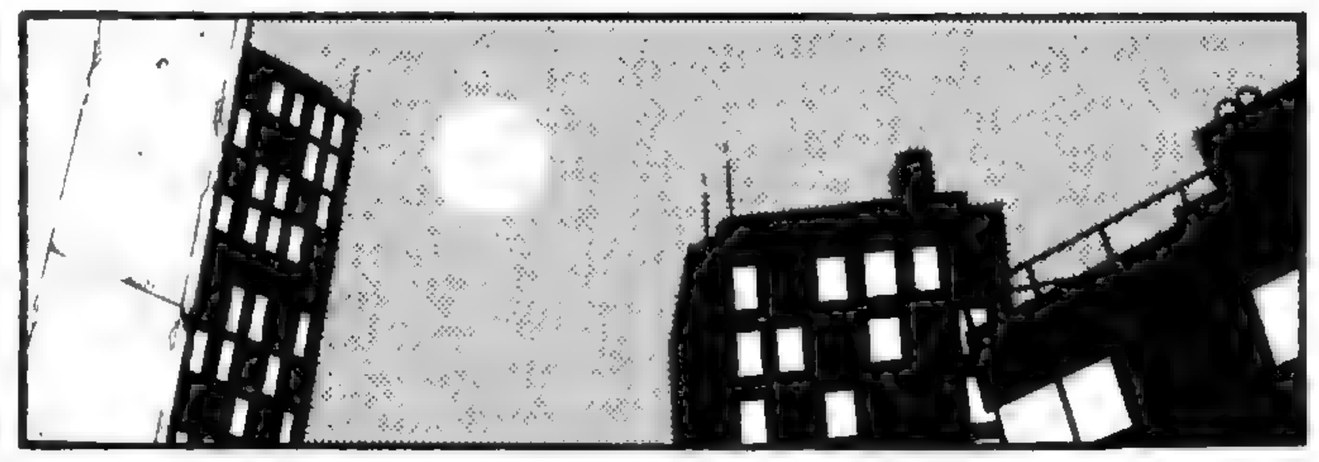
MANTA AND I WILL CHECK EVERY PLACE THAT HAS A BOXING RING.

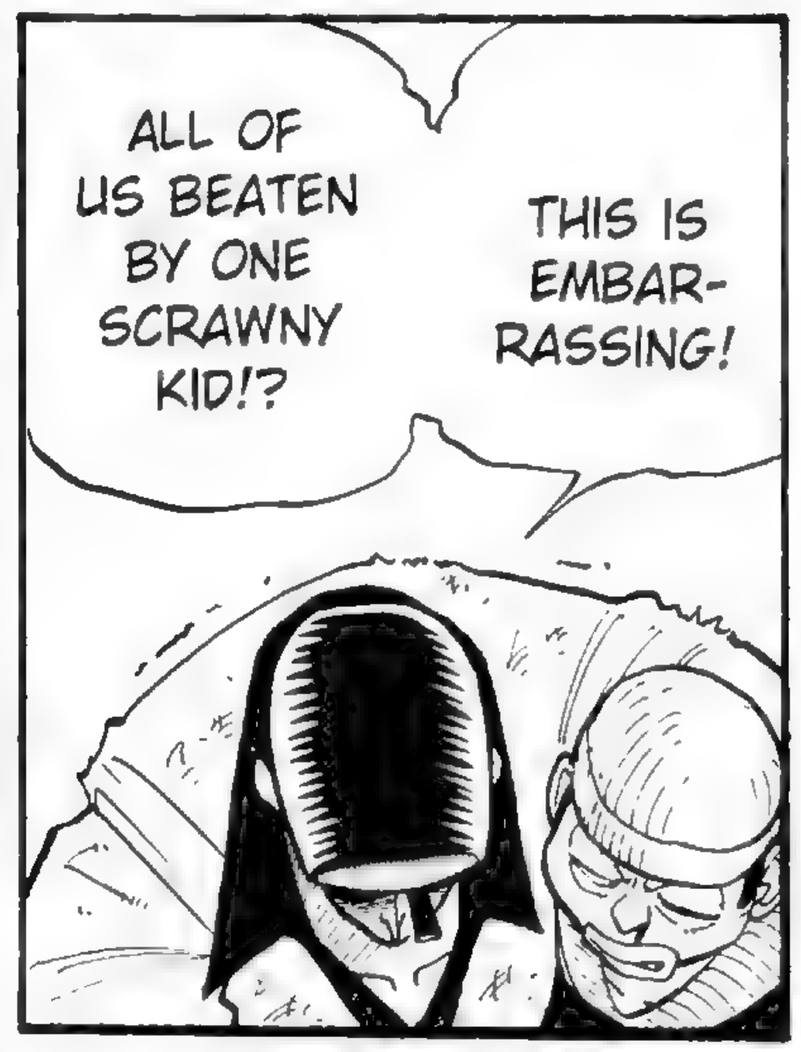
WHO, ME?

HMM!

OKAY. AMIDAMARU, GO TALK TO YOUR GHOST INFORMANTS.

HUH?

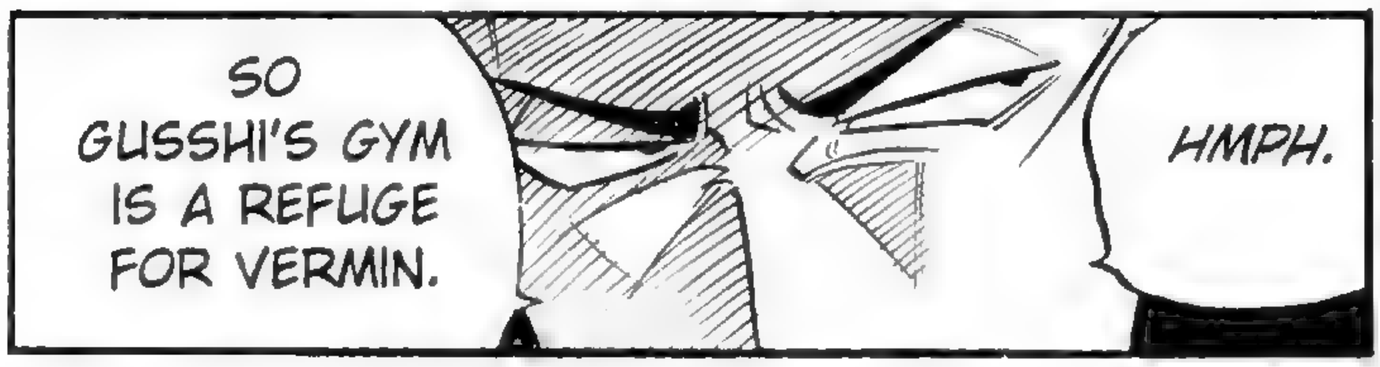




THERE'S NOTHING HAPPY HERE...

WHAM!
UMF!!

WE WON'T FORGET THIS!
AAA
C'MON! THIS IS A DUMP, ANYWAY!


SO GUSSHI'S GYM IS A REFUGE FOR VERMIN.
HMPH.

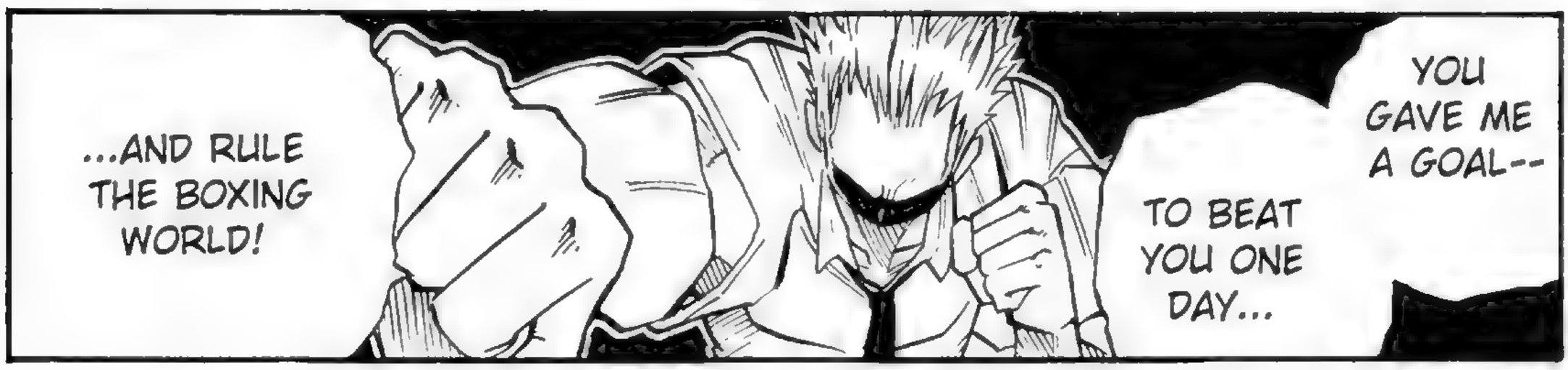
HOWDAYA LIKE THAT?
Shleesh

...AND IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE!
GUSSHI KENJI BOXING GYM
aizen real estate
UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Please Bear with Us.

JERK!

I DIDN'T KNOW NOTHIN' BUT PICKING FIGHTS...
...THEN YOU GAVE ME MY FIRST BEAT-DOWN... TAUGHT ME THE "SWEET SCIENCE"...

KREEK
SHEESH ...
AND YOU!


...AND RULE THE BOXING WORLD!
TO BEAT YOU ONE DAY...
YOU GAVE ME A GOAL--

WHAT ARE MY FISTS GOOD FOR NOW?
YOU DIED!
BUT YOU CHEATED ME!

FWASH

!

WHAT ELSE?

heh

PLAYING DRESS-UP?

YOU'RE THE GNAT I SWATTED THIS MORNING!

heh heh heh!

SEE, YOU *DO* MISS BOXING.

...

MORE LIKE THE SPIT THAN THE IMAGE.

gr

AND I CAME TO FIGHT GUSSHI KENJI'S STAR PUPIL.

I'M THE SPITTING IMAGE OF GUSSHI KENJI, AREN'T I?

G·GYM

YOU'RE NOTHIN' LIKE GUSSHI, YOU OUT-OF-SHAPE KID.

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.

FWIK

FWIK FWIK

!

heh

IF YOU HADN'T RUN AWAY FROM BOXING YOU'D KNOW ME.

THEY CALL ME "THE NEW GUSSHI KENJI."

HE WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

WILL YOH BE ALL RIGHT, AMIDAMARU?

HE HAS A POWERFUL ALLY!

GUSSHI KENJI SPIRIT FLAME MODE

FOOM

INTEGRATE!

SEE FOR YOURSELF!

BOXING CHAMP!

G-GYM

THAT'S A LOUSY IMITATION!!

DON'T YOU MOCK MY TEACHER!!

WHOOSH

THAT STANCE!

!

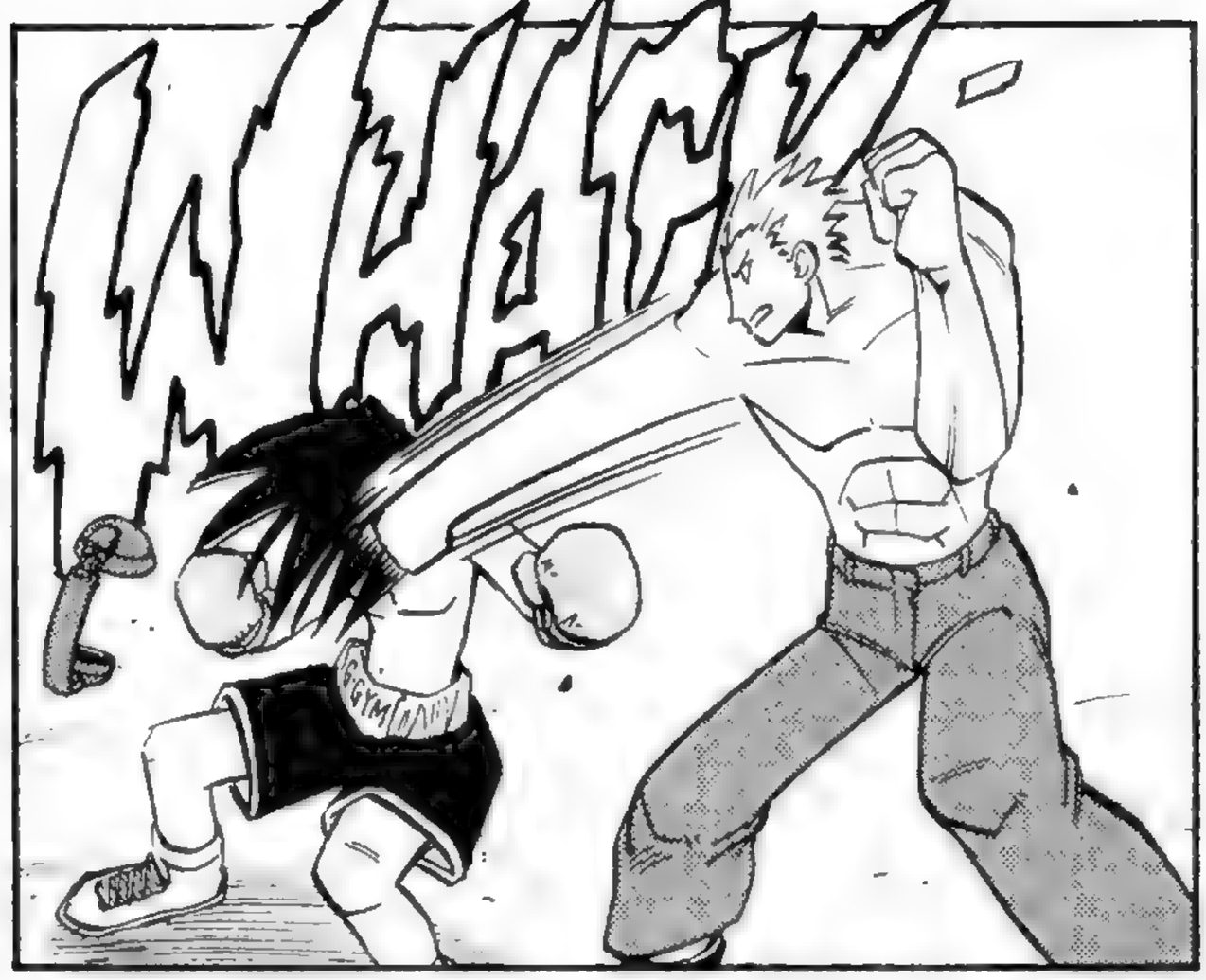
FWAP

YOU LITTLE COPY-CAT!

GRRNO

!

YOH!!


WHACK!

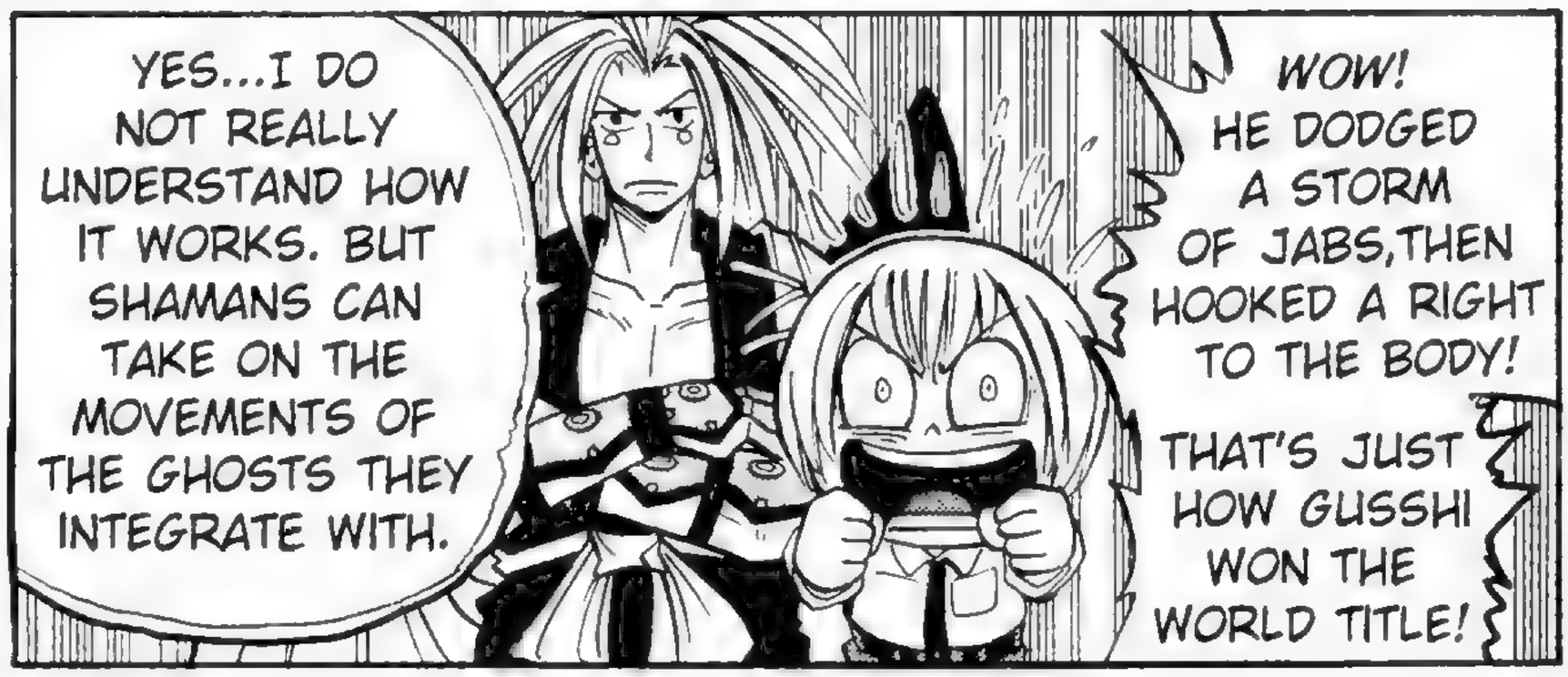
BUT IF THAT'S THE BEST YOU'VE GOT, YOU'RE NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO LICK MY SHOES.
Heh
THAT TINGLED A LITTLE.

YOU CALL THAT A JAB?
block
fft
fft
!!
IS THERE A DRAFT IN HERE?
whap!
fshfsh

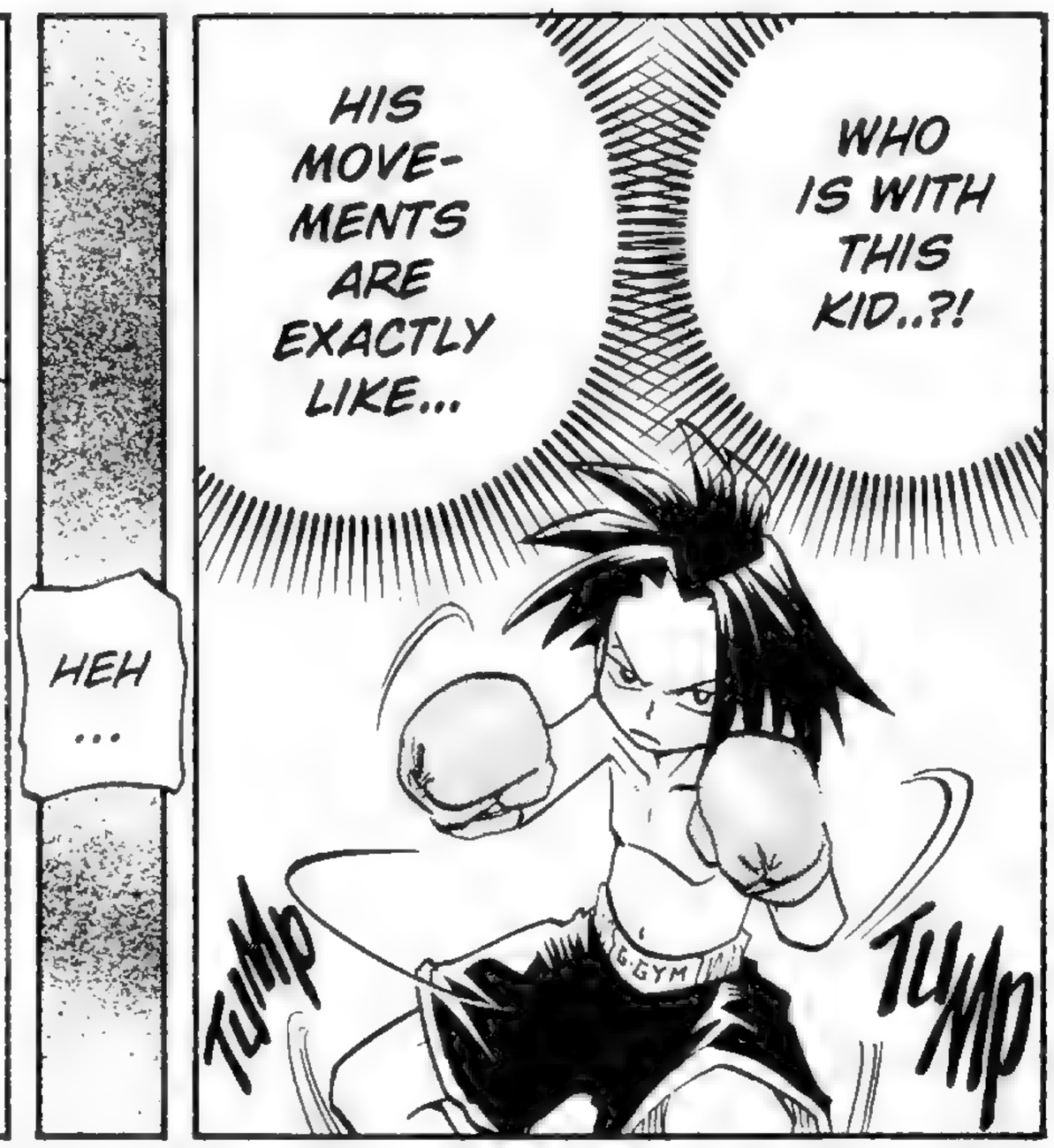
OKAY,
WISE GUY!!
WHOOA

WRAK
PUNK!

HOOMPH!

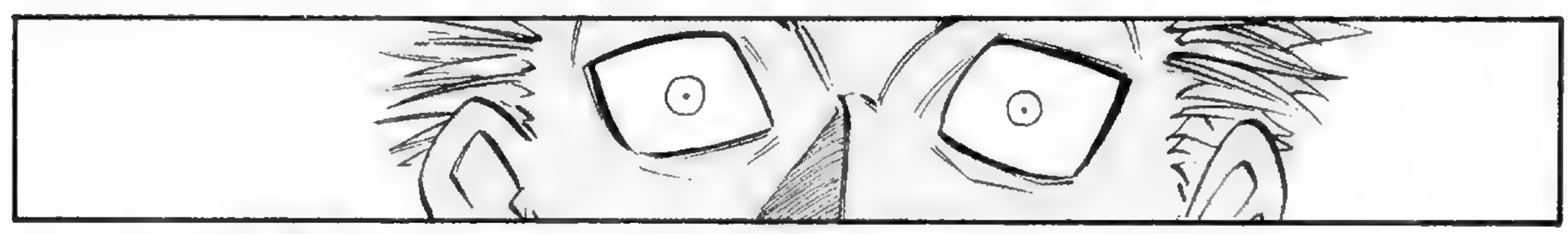

YES...I DO NOT REALLY UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS. BUT SHAMANS CAN TAKE ON THE MOVEMENTS OF THE GHOSTS THEY INTEGRATE WITH.
WOW! HE DODGED A STORM OF JABS,THEN HOOKED A RIGHT TO THE BODY!
THAT'S JUST HOW GUSSHI WON THE WORLD TITLE!

BUT NOW IT'S FOR REAL!
OKAY, KITTEN, SO I UNDER-ESTIMATED YOU.


HEH ...
HIS MOVE-MENTS ARE EXACTLY LIKE...
WHO IS WITH THIS KID..?!
TUMP
TUMP

AFTER ALL I TOLD YOU, STILL MAKING EXCUSES, EH, TATSUSHI!?

YOU BUM!!



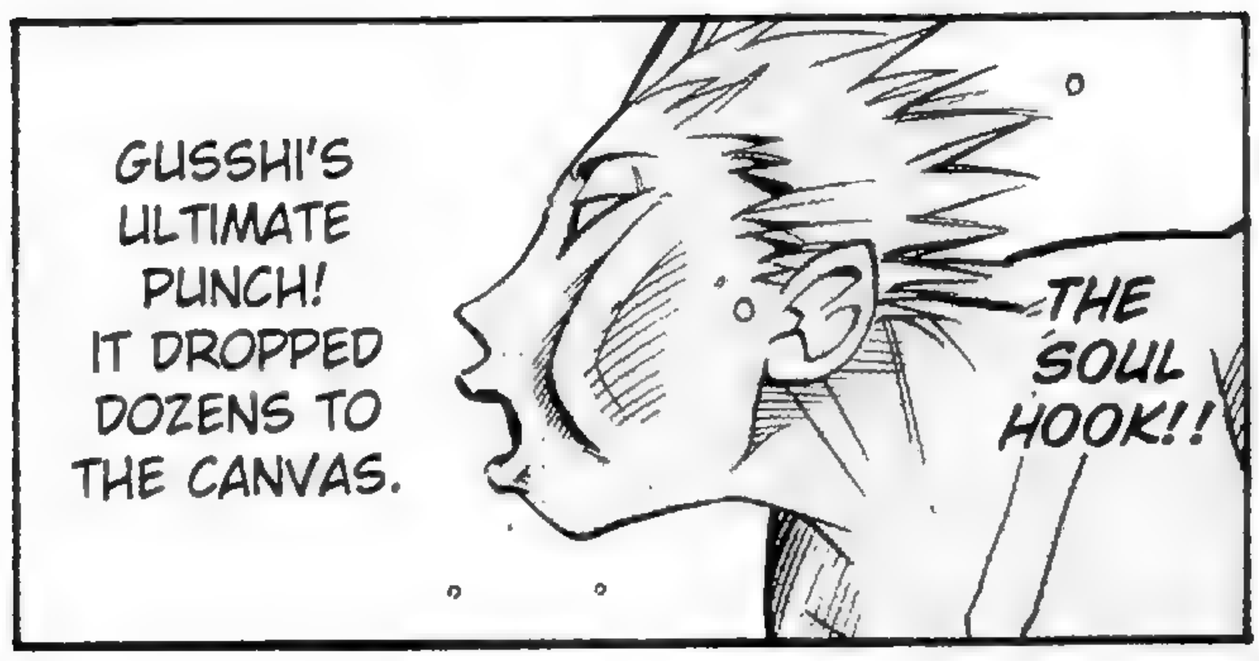
NIKI

SOUL HOOK!!

STOP RUNNING AWAY!!

KASH

G-GYM


GUSSHI'S ULTIMATE PUNCH! IT DROPPED DOZENS TO THE CANVAS.
THE SOUL HOOK!!

!!

THE MASTER IS STANDING BEHIND HIM!?
MASTER!?

heh...

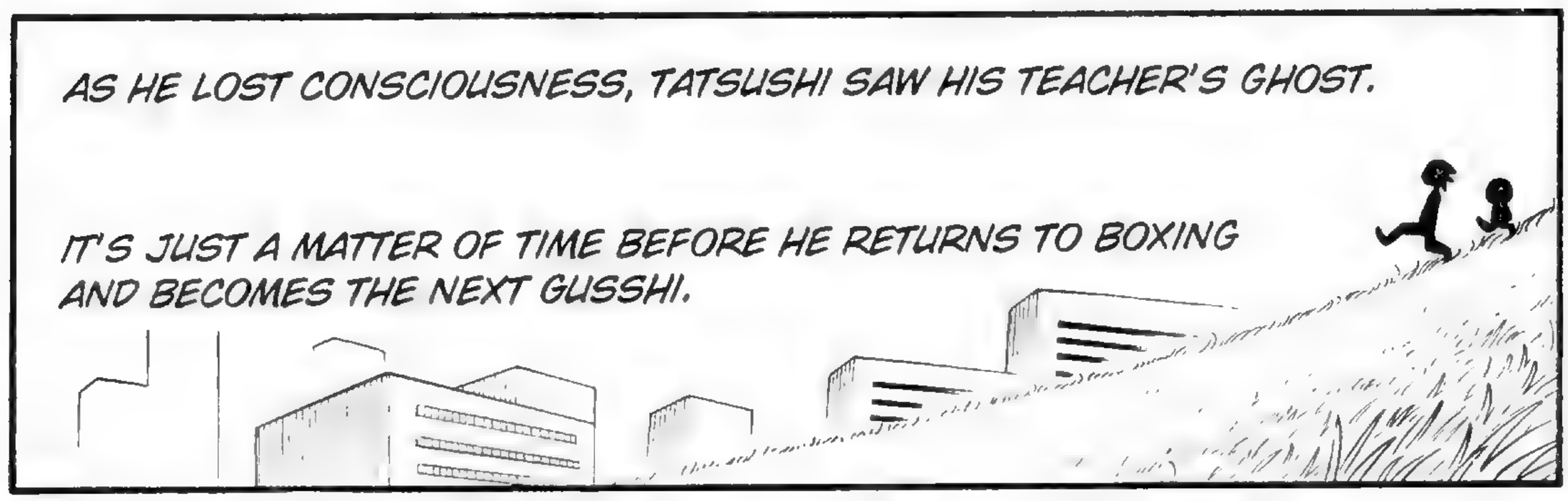
HE ALWAYS GRINNED LIKE THAT AFTER HE LECTURED ME...
CUT IT OUT ALREADY!!

heh

...WANT TO TAKE UP BOXING AGAIN...

YOU'RE MAKING ME...

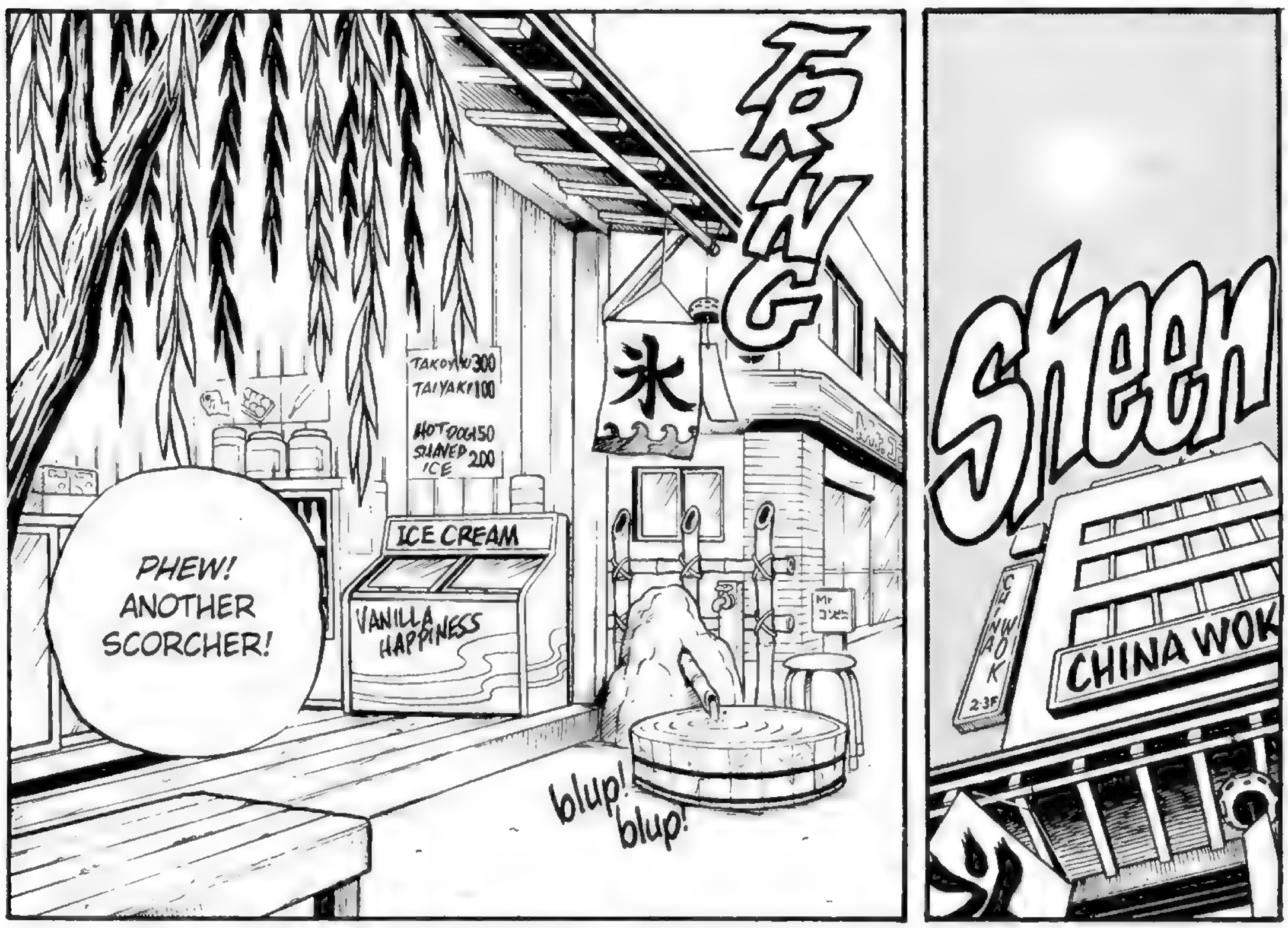
THUD

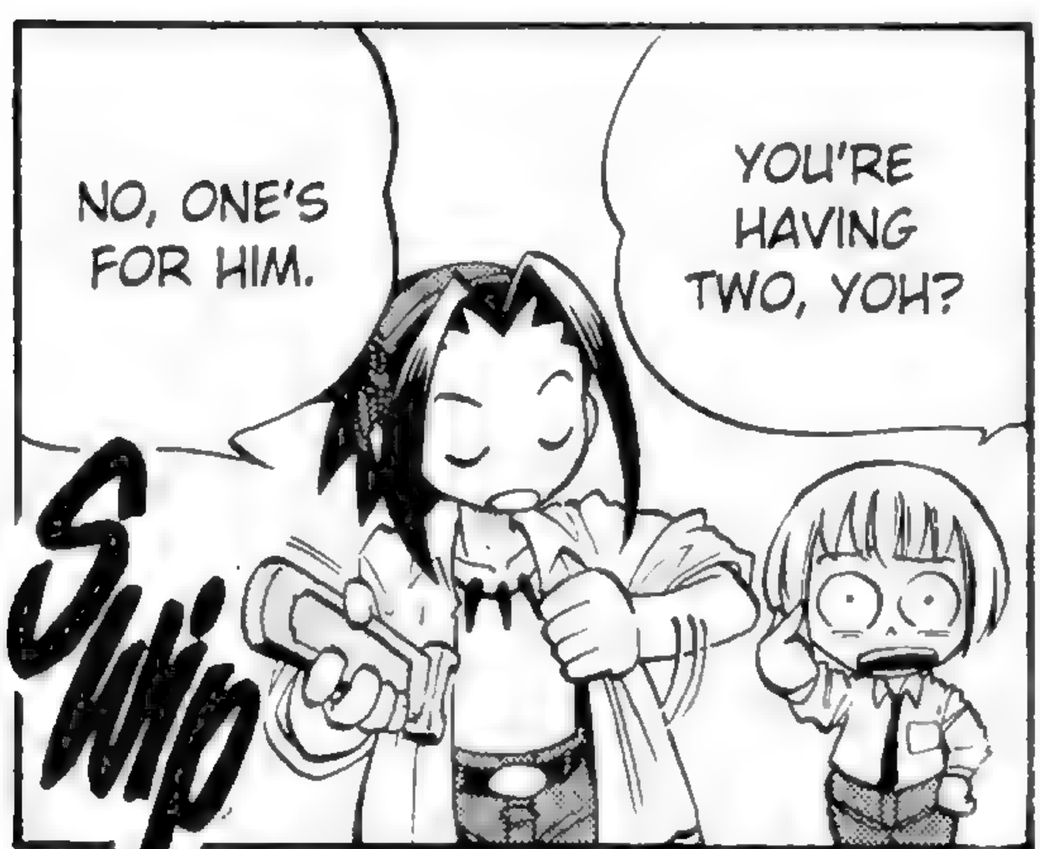


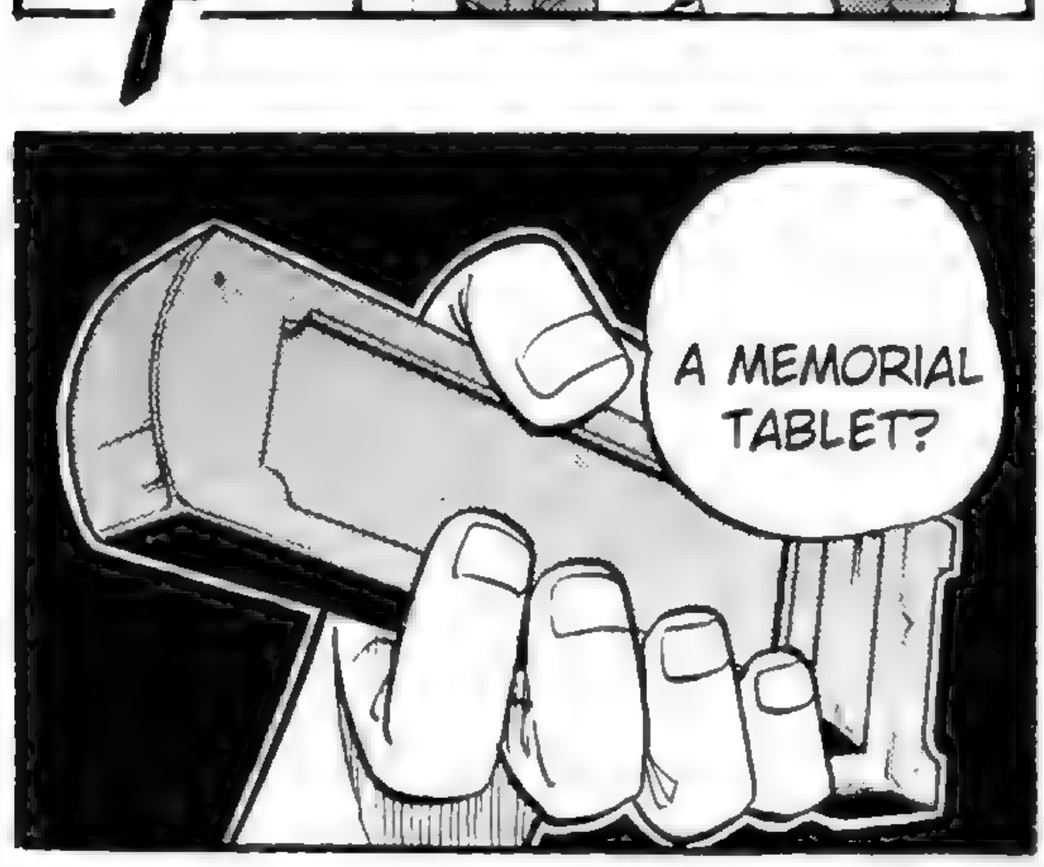
SHAMAN KING

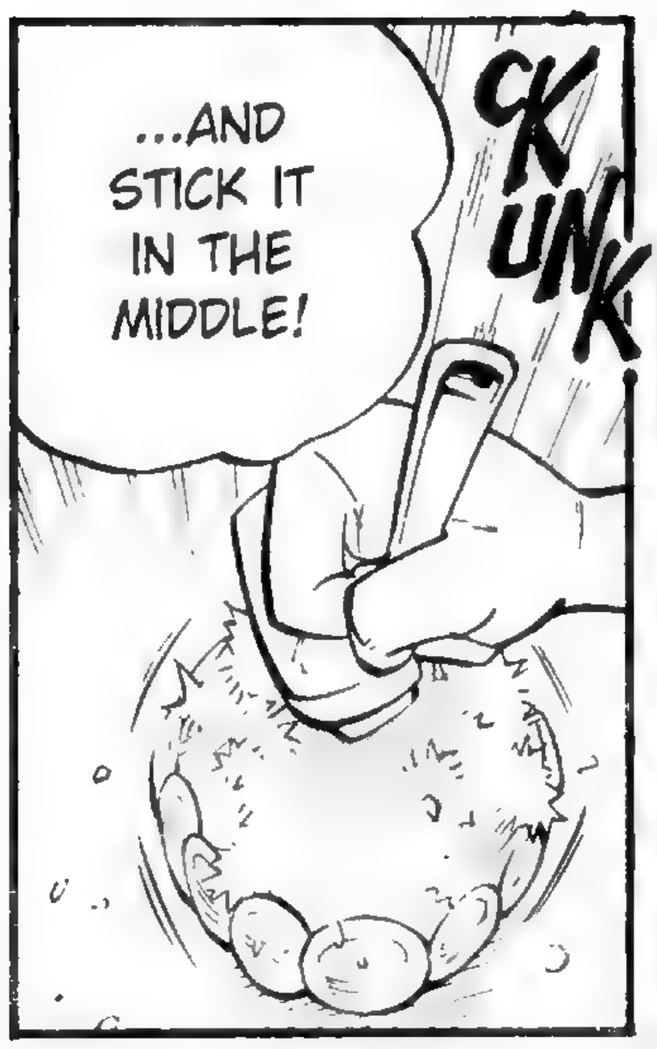
1

REINCARNATION 5: SAMURAI BODYGUARD

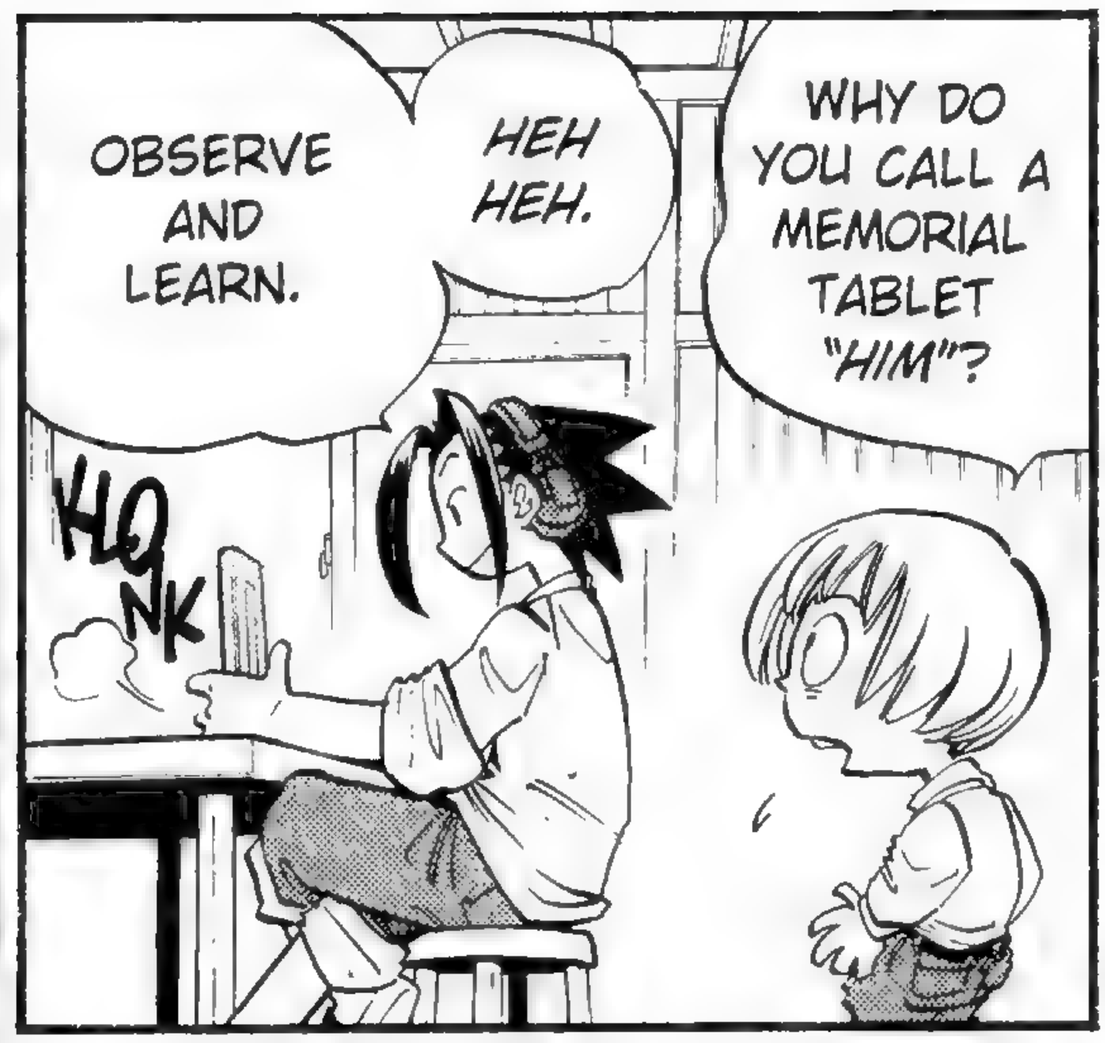






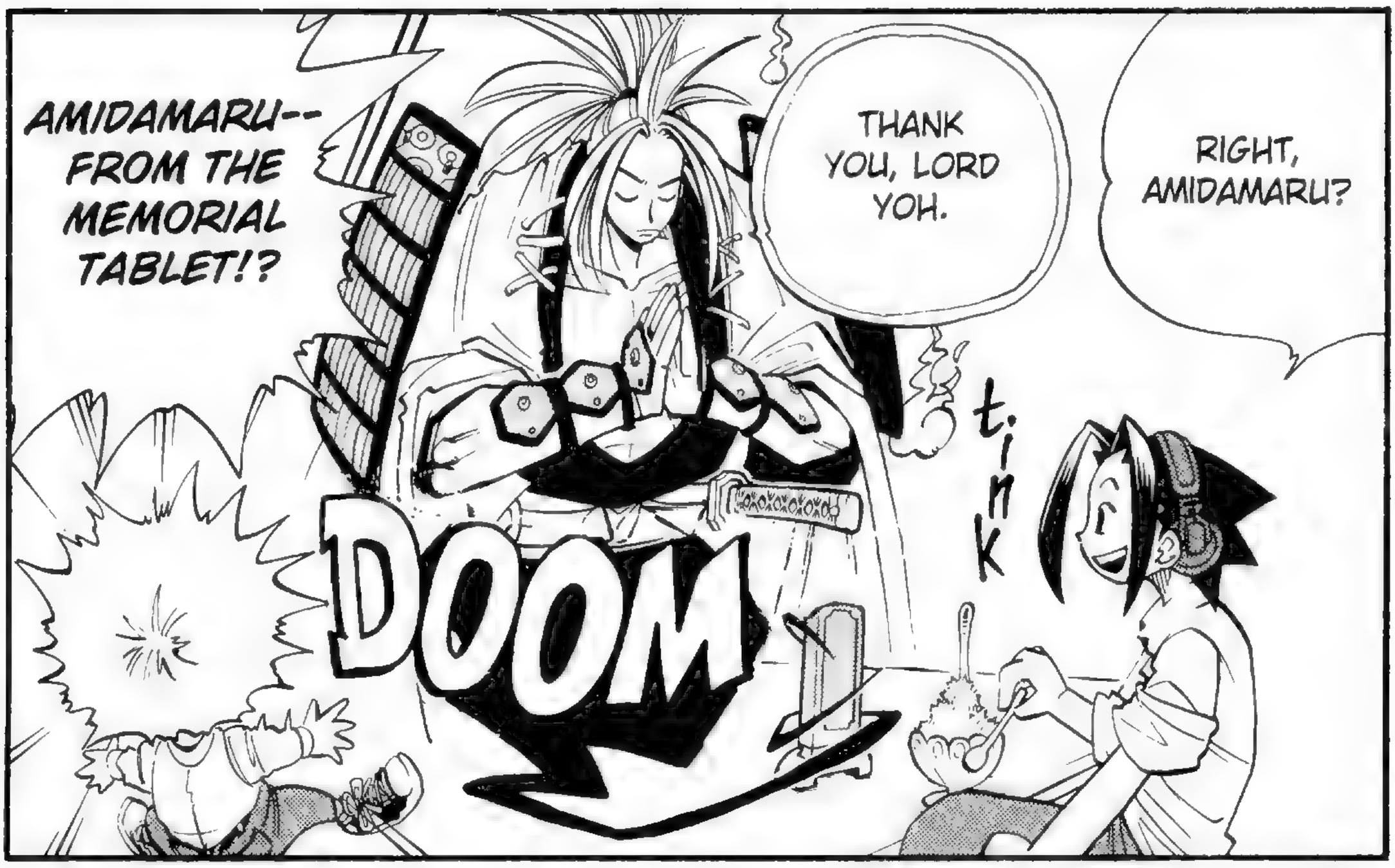

...AND STICK IT IN THE MIDDLE!
CK UNK

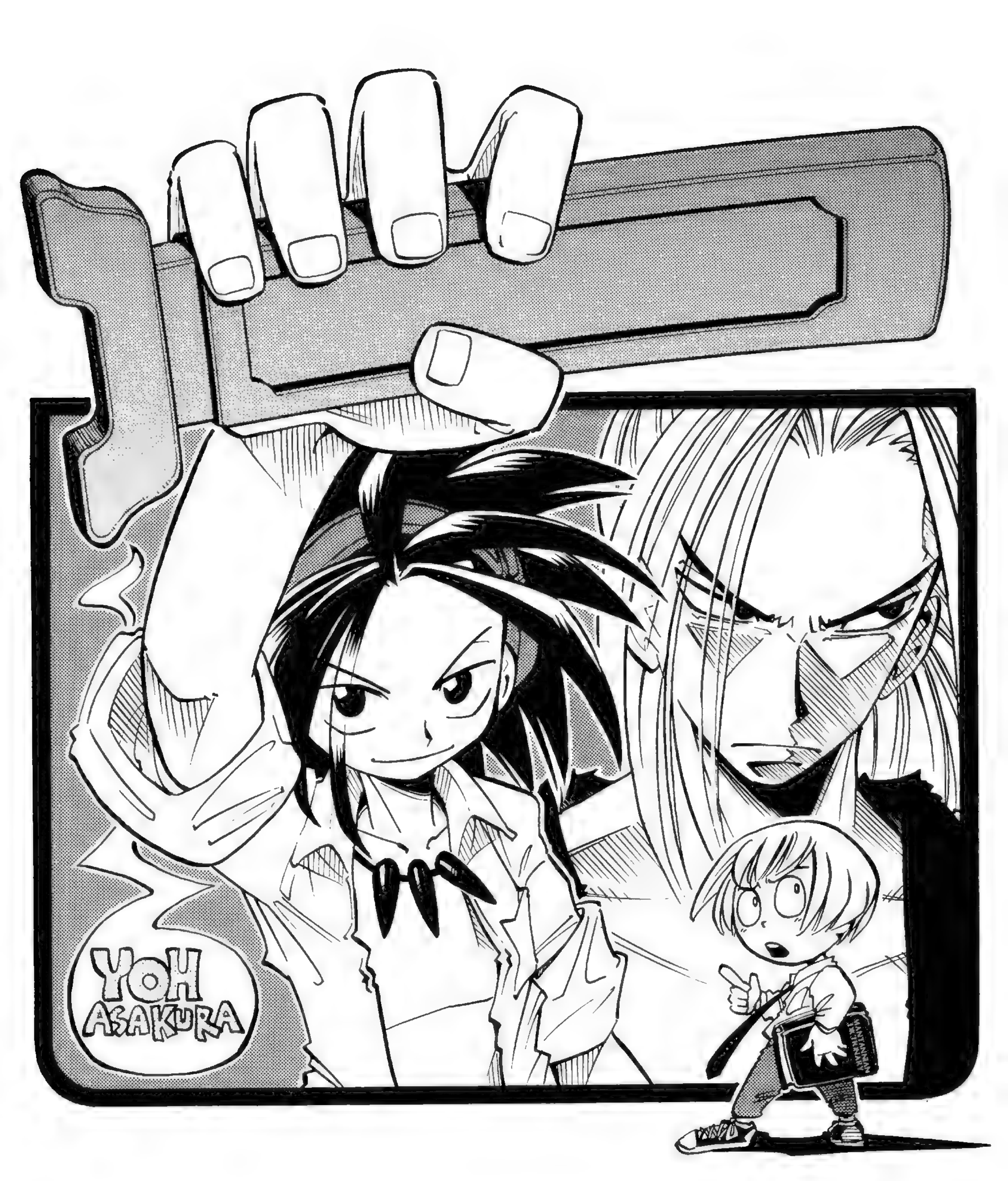
I'LL JUST TAKE THIS...
FWM


OBSERVE AND LEARN.
HEH HEH.
WHY DO YOU CALL A MEMORIAL TABLET "HIM"?
KLO NK

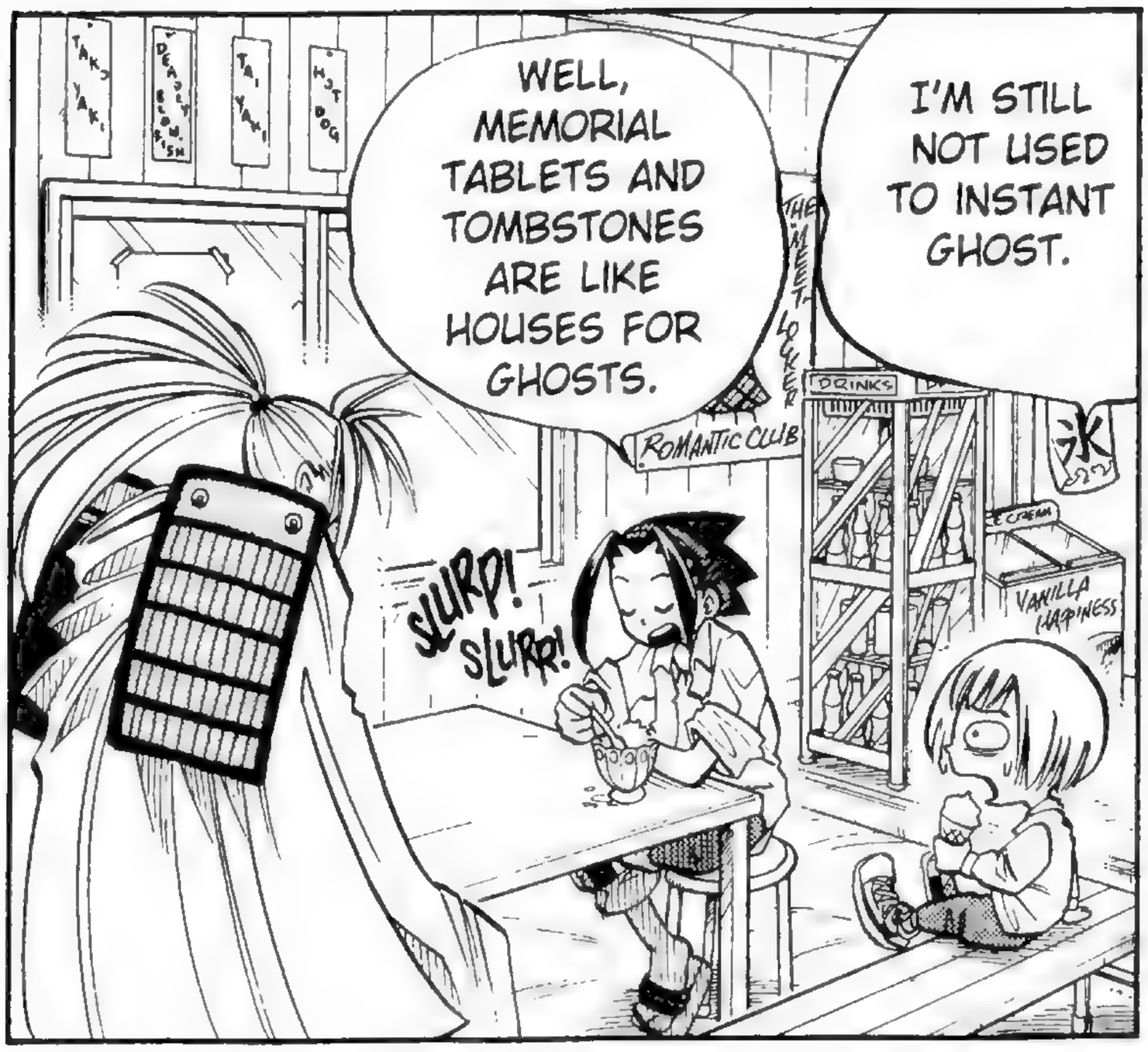
I CAN'T JUST EAT IN FRONT OF MY FRIEND WITHOUT LETTING HIM HAVE SOME, CAN I?

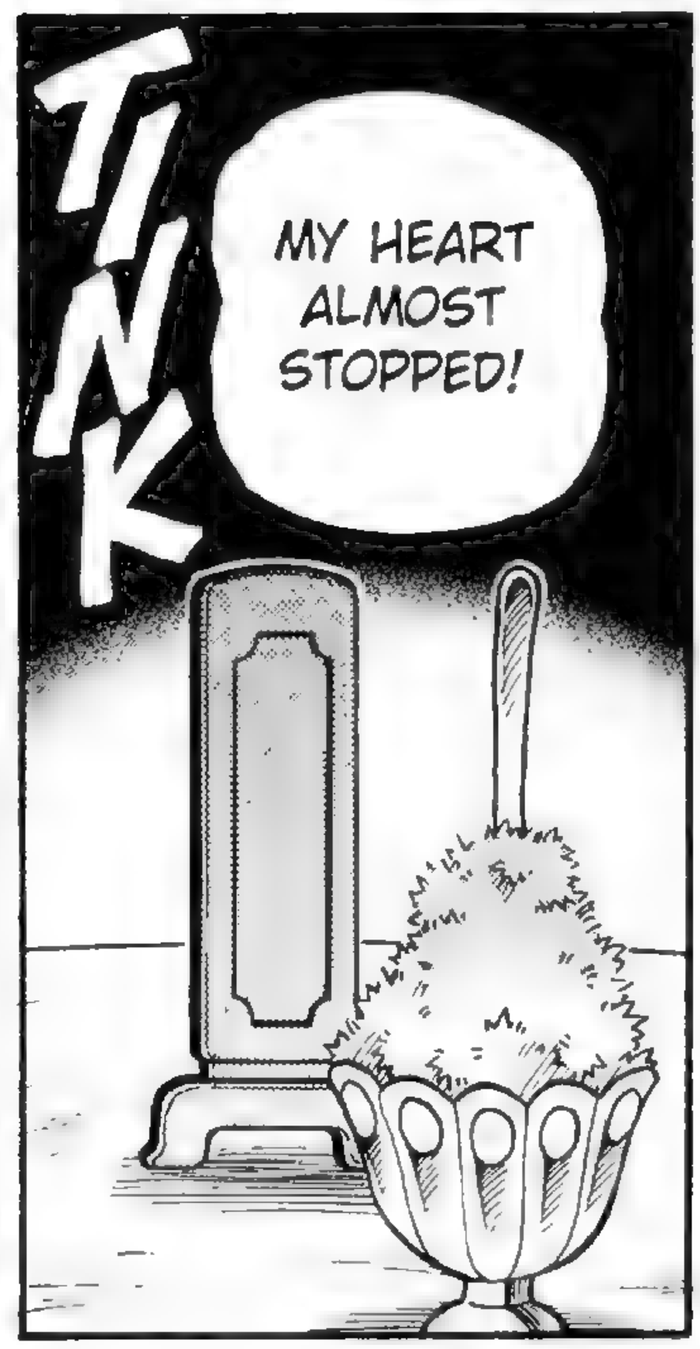
HEY!
ISN'T THAT IN BAD TASTE? THAT LOOKS LIKE THE OFFERINGS TO THE DEAD YOU MAKE AT A BUDDHIST ALTAR.

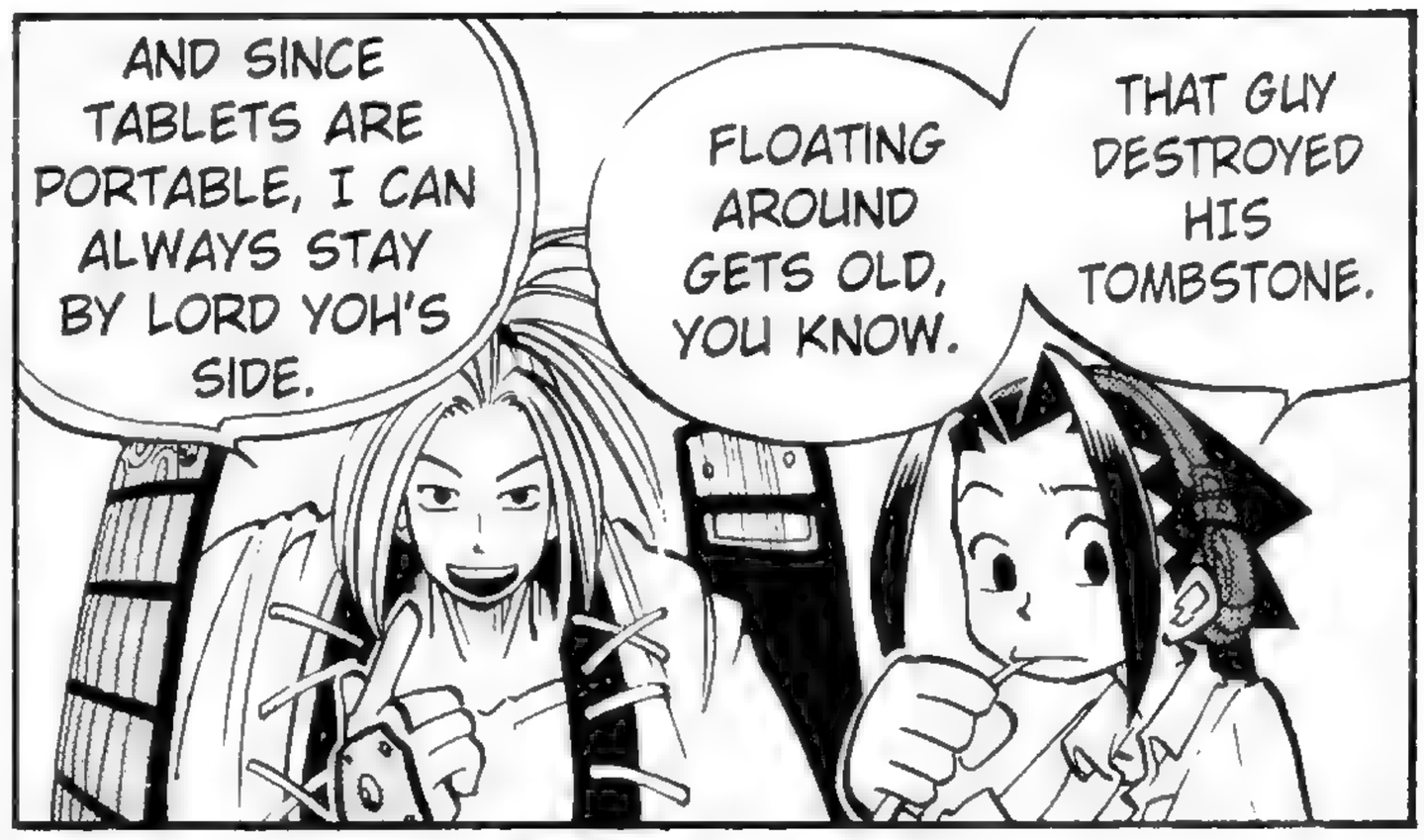

AMIDAMARU-- FROM THE MEMORIAL TABLET!?
THANK YOU, LORD YOH.
RIGHT, AMIDAMARU?
DOOM
tink



Reincarnation 5: Samurai Bodyguard







*BELIEVED IN JAPAN TO BE CAUSED BY GHOSTS — EDITOR

SAY WHAT?
YOU'RE DEAD MEAT...
WELL...
HE *IS* A SAMURAI.
AND I DON'T WORRY ABOUT BULLIES PICKING ON ME.

WELL ...
HE *IS* A GHOST.
WHEN I GET LOST, HE NAVIGATES FROM ABOVE.

HUH!?
BUT... *HE'S* THE GHOST!
AND HE COMES WITH ME TO THE BATHROOM AT NIGHT WHEN I'M SCARED.

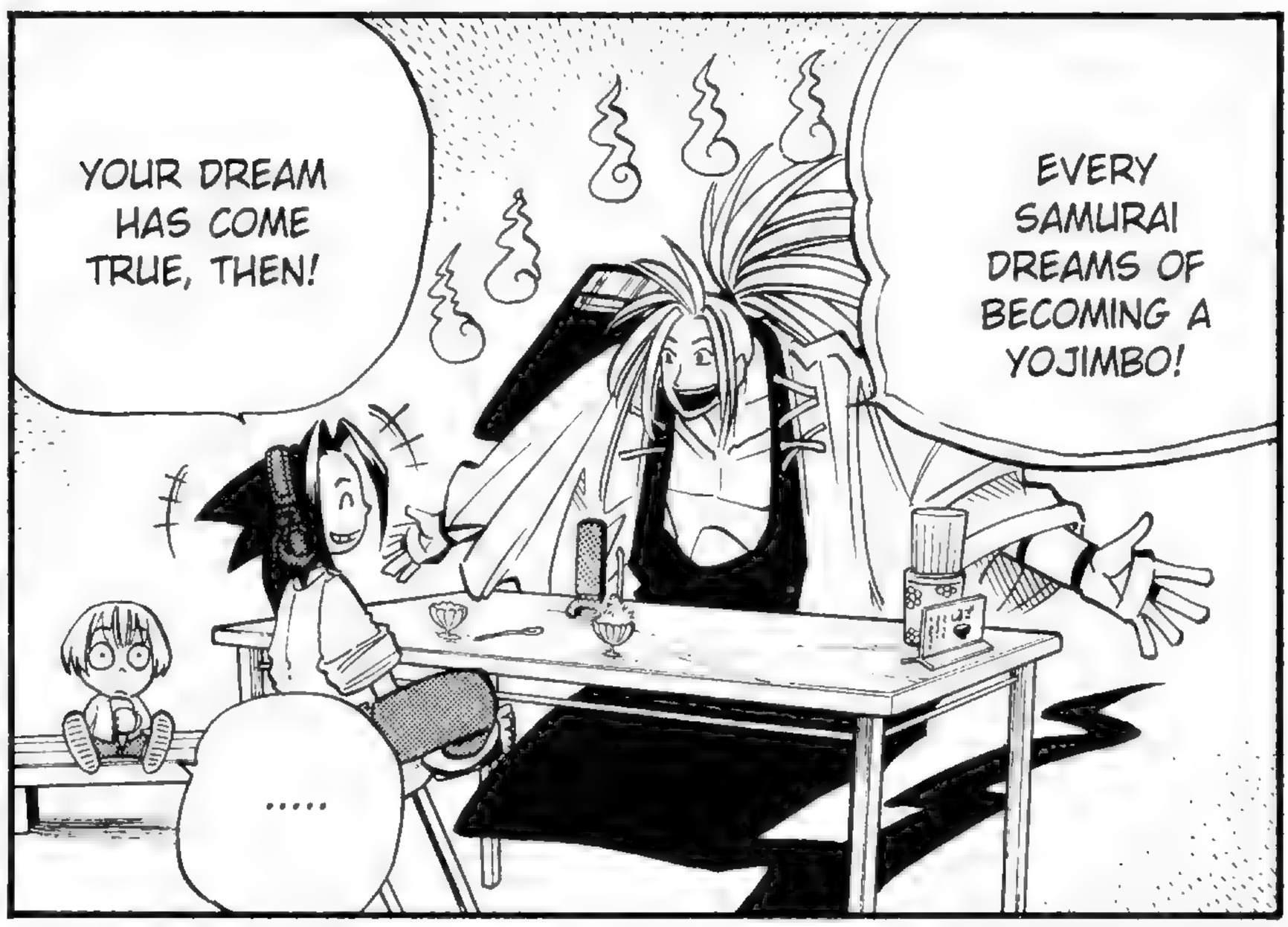
...!
BODY-GUARD!?

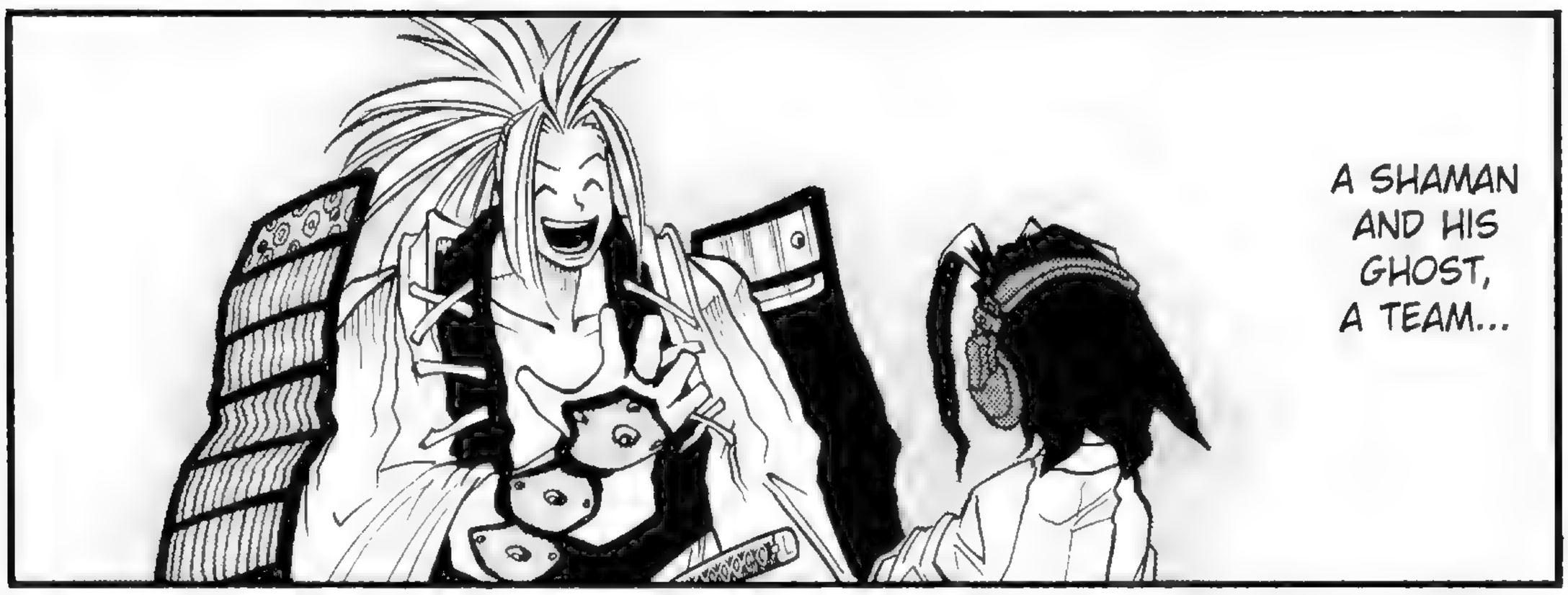
WELL, YOU GET THE PICTURE.
AMIDAMARU IS AN OUTSTANDING BODYGUARD.

A YOJIMBO!
AH!

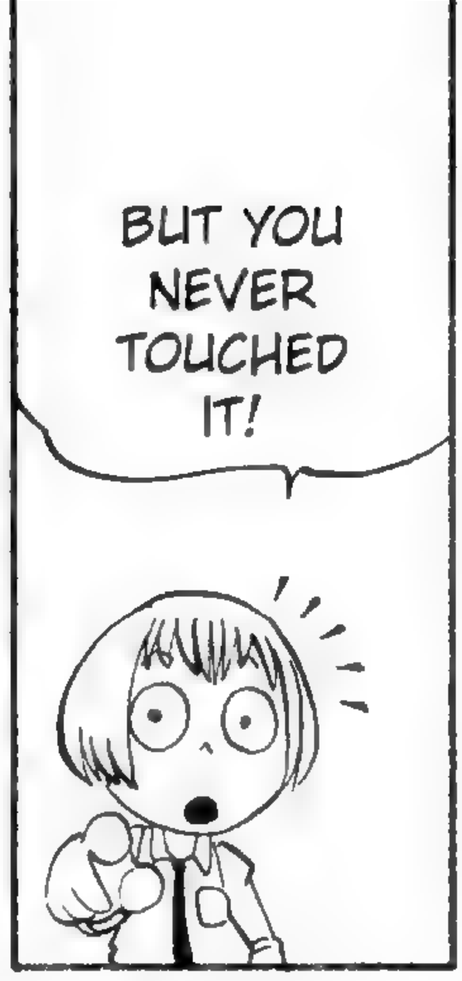
LIKE A YOJIMBO.
"BODY GUARD?"

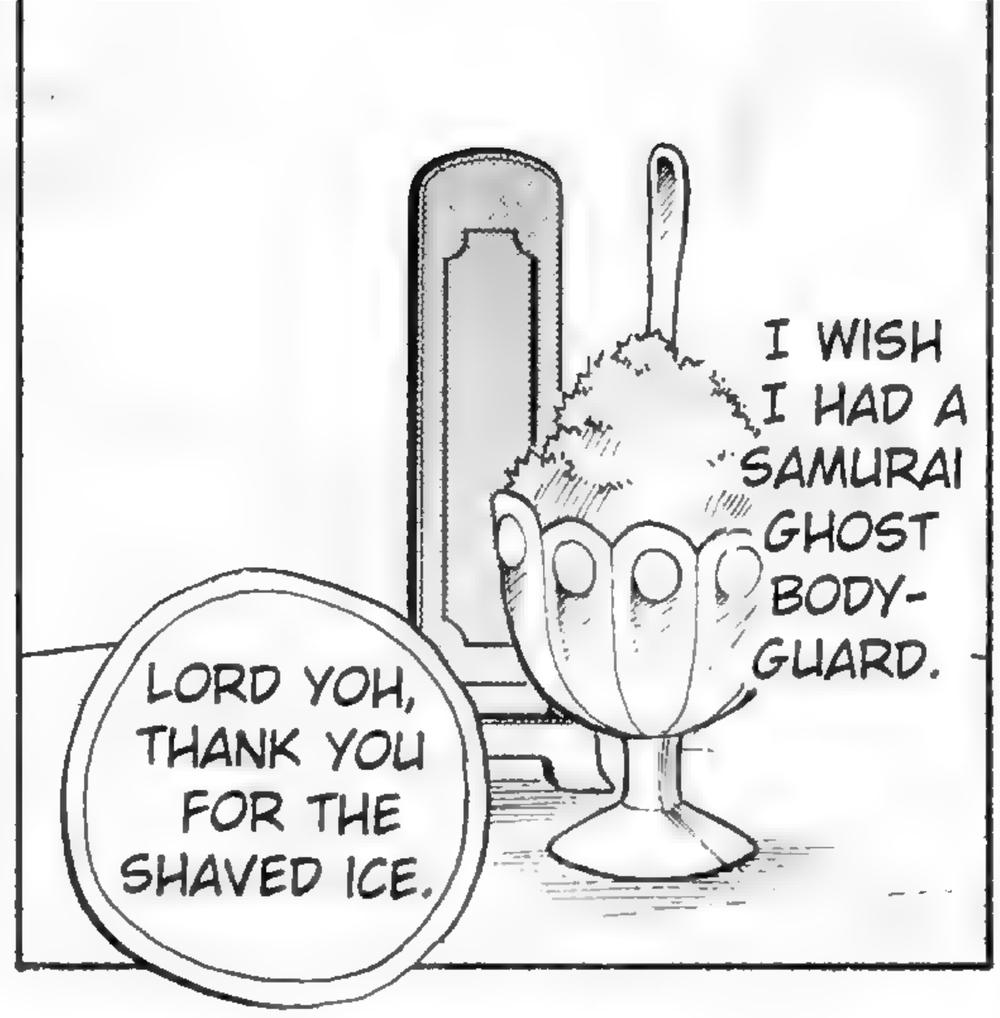
A SAMURAI BODYGUARD... ALWAYS THERE TO PROTECT HIM.

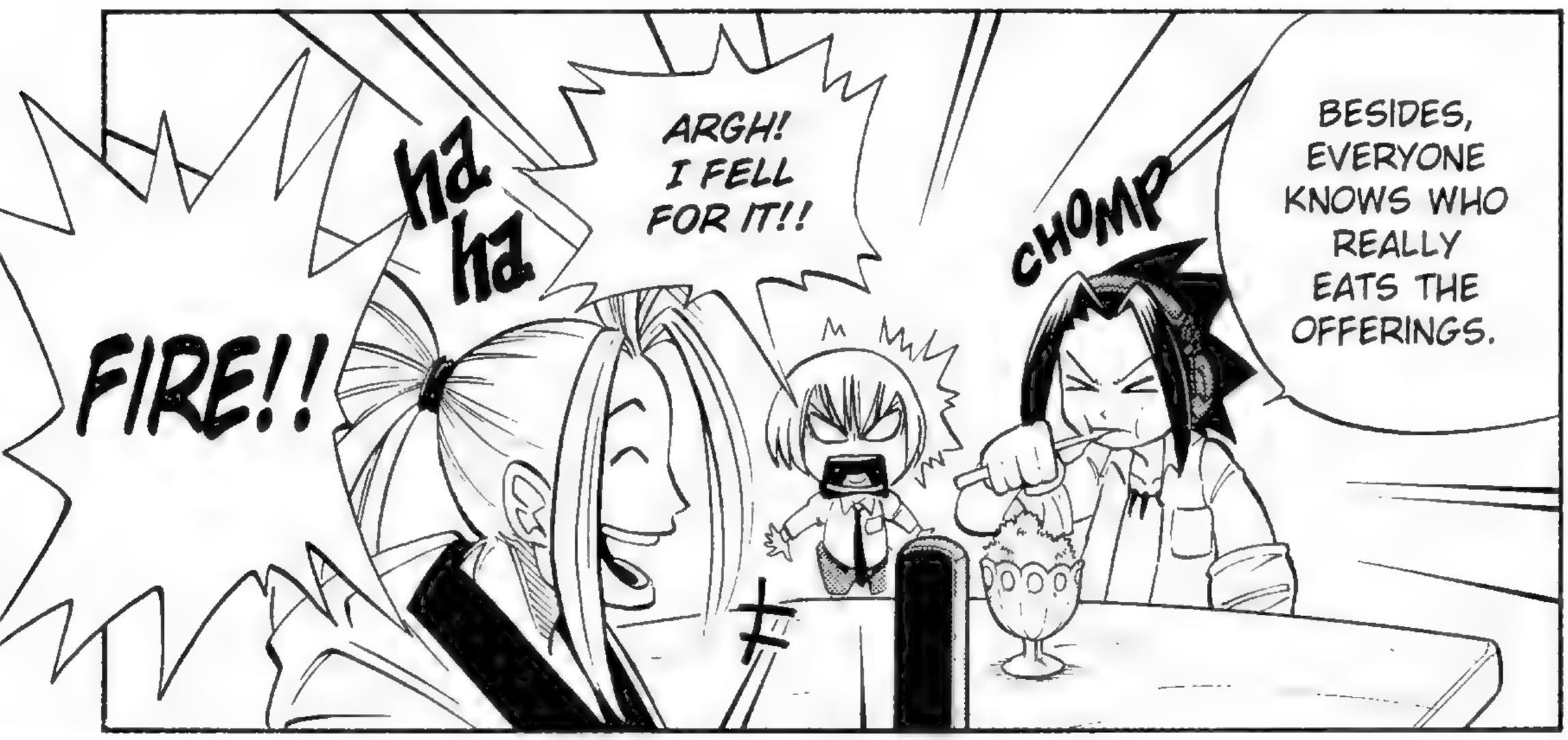

YOUR DREAM HAS COME TRUE, THEN!
EVERY SAMURAI DREAMS OF BECOMING A YOJIMBO!
.....


A SHAMAN AND HIS GHOST, A TEAM...

MANTA, GHOSTS CAN'T EAT. IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS.


BUT YOU NEVER TOUCHED IT!


I WISH I HAD A SAMURAI GHOST BODY-GUARD.
LORD YOH, THANK YOU FOR THE SHAVED ICE.


FIRE!!
ha ha
ARGH! I FELL FOR IT!!
CHOMP
BESIDES, EVERYONE KNOWS WHO REALLY EATS THE OFFERINGS.

F-- FIRE !?

THE CHINESE RESTAURANT UPSTAIRS IS ON FIRE!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
THIS IS TERRIBLE!
Coffy...

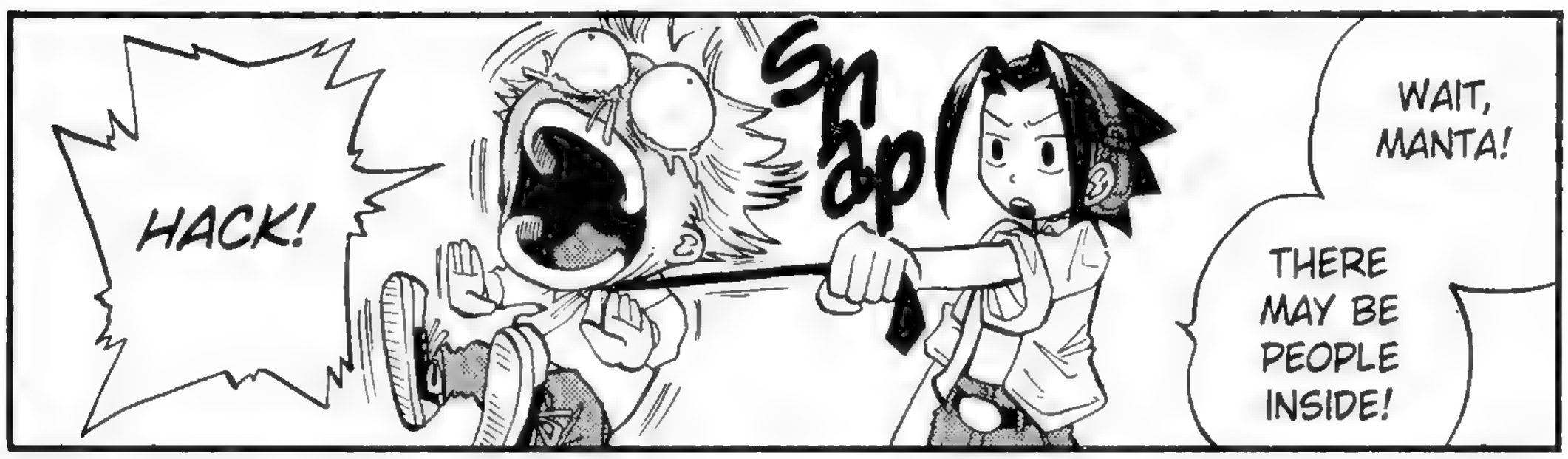
?

THE SPRINKLERS DON'T WORK!?
WHAT?

!!
Coffy

THEN THE EMERGENCY WATER TANK ON THE ROOF IS USELESS!
WHERE ARE THE FIRE TRUCKS!?
CHINA WOK 2F 3F
GRASS JELLY

IT'S AN INFERNO!!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, YOH!


HACK!
Snap!
WAIT, MANTA!
THERE MAY BE PEOPLE INSIDE!

ALTHOUGH SOME PEOPLE WHO DIE TRAUMATIC DEATHS--LIKE IN A FIRE--DO COME BACK AS HORRIBLE HAUNTING SPECTRES.
INTEGRATE WITH YOU?
HMM! HEY, AMIDAMARU ...

DON'T WORRY! IF YOU DIE, YOU CAN INTEGRATE WITH ME!
PEOPLE!? I'M PEOPLE! AND YOU NEARLY STRANGLED ME JUST NOW!
COFF
COFF

FIRE CAN'T HURT GHOSTS.

HE FLEW INTO THAT!?

AND WALLS CAN'T STOP THEM. HE'LL BE ABLE TO REPORT BACK QUICKLY.

LORD YOH!

THERE IS NO ONE INSIDE.

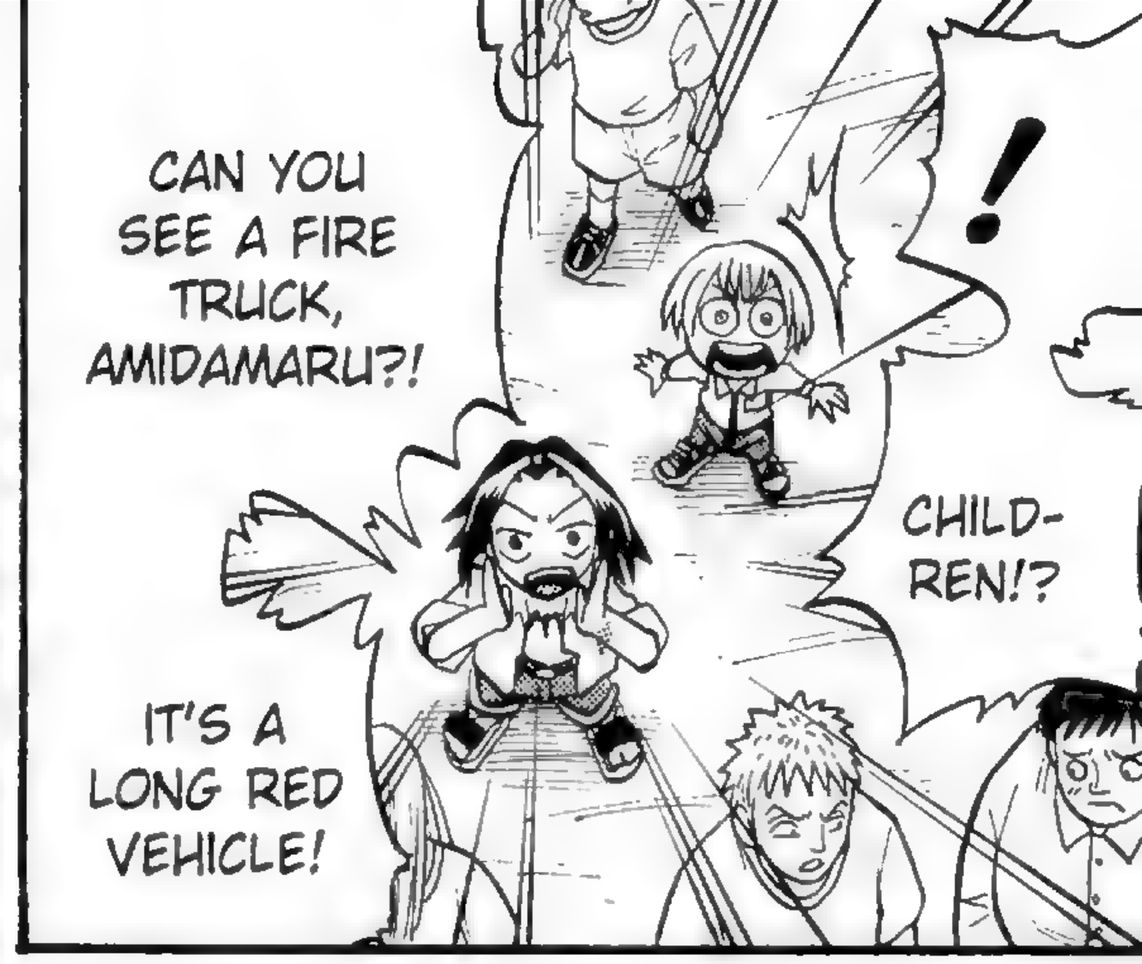
BUT THERE ARE CHILDREN ON THE ROOF!

...WILL YOU SEE IF ANYONE'S INSIDE?

AS YOU WISH!

!

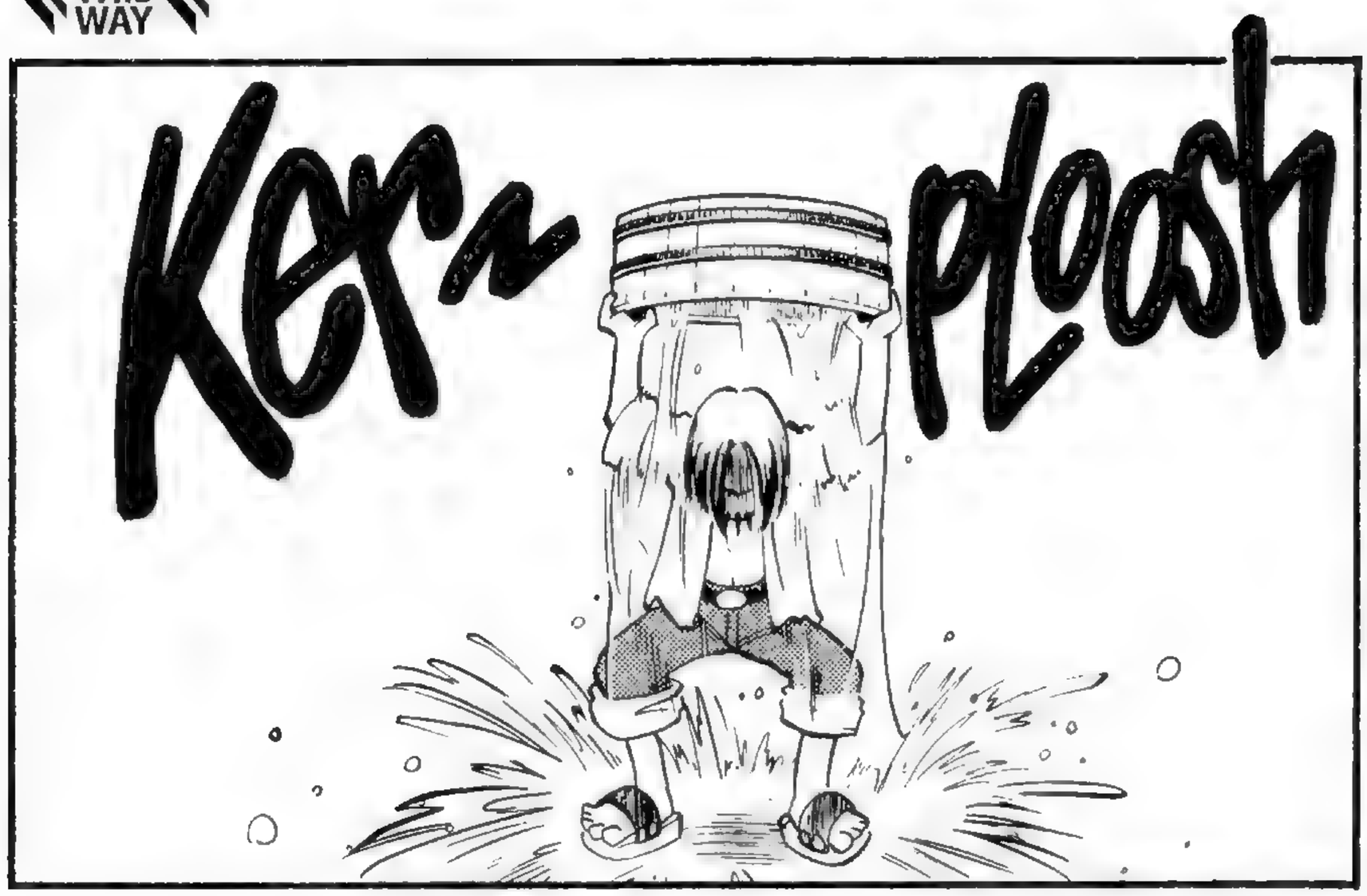
Shp
!
Shp


CAN YOU SEE A FIRE TRUCK, AMIDAMARU?!
!
CHILD-REN!?
IT'S A LONG RED VEHICLE!

THE STREET IS BLOCKED! THE FIRE TRUCKS CAN'T GET THROUGH!
THIS IS NOT GOOD!

MA'AM, I NEED THIS WATER.
OH NO! MY STORE IS BURNING!

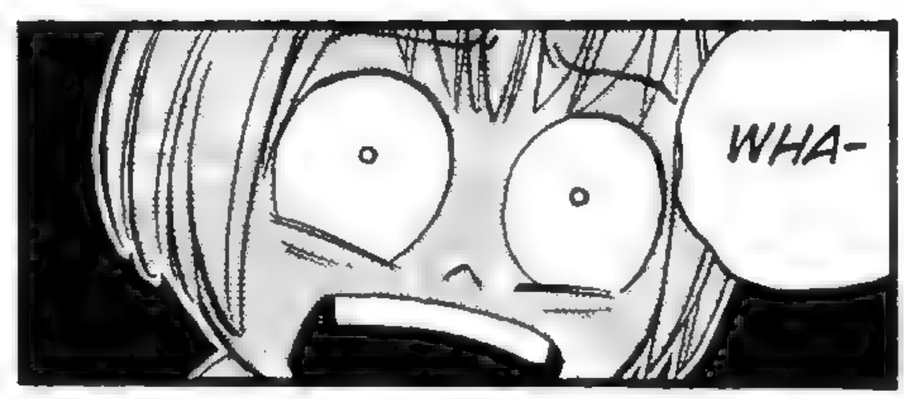
GEEZ, DO I HAFTA DO EVERYTHING AROUND HERE?
OH NO!! THOSE KIDS ARE DOOMED!!
WHAT !?


Ker-
plosh

WHAT ARE YOU...
Y-- YOH!

THIS TOWN'S GOT ENOUGH TROUBLED SPIRITS ALREADY.
HEH
heh
I'M GONNA GO SAVE THEM, OF COURSE.

!

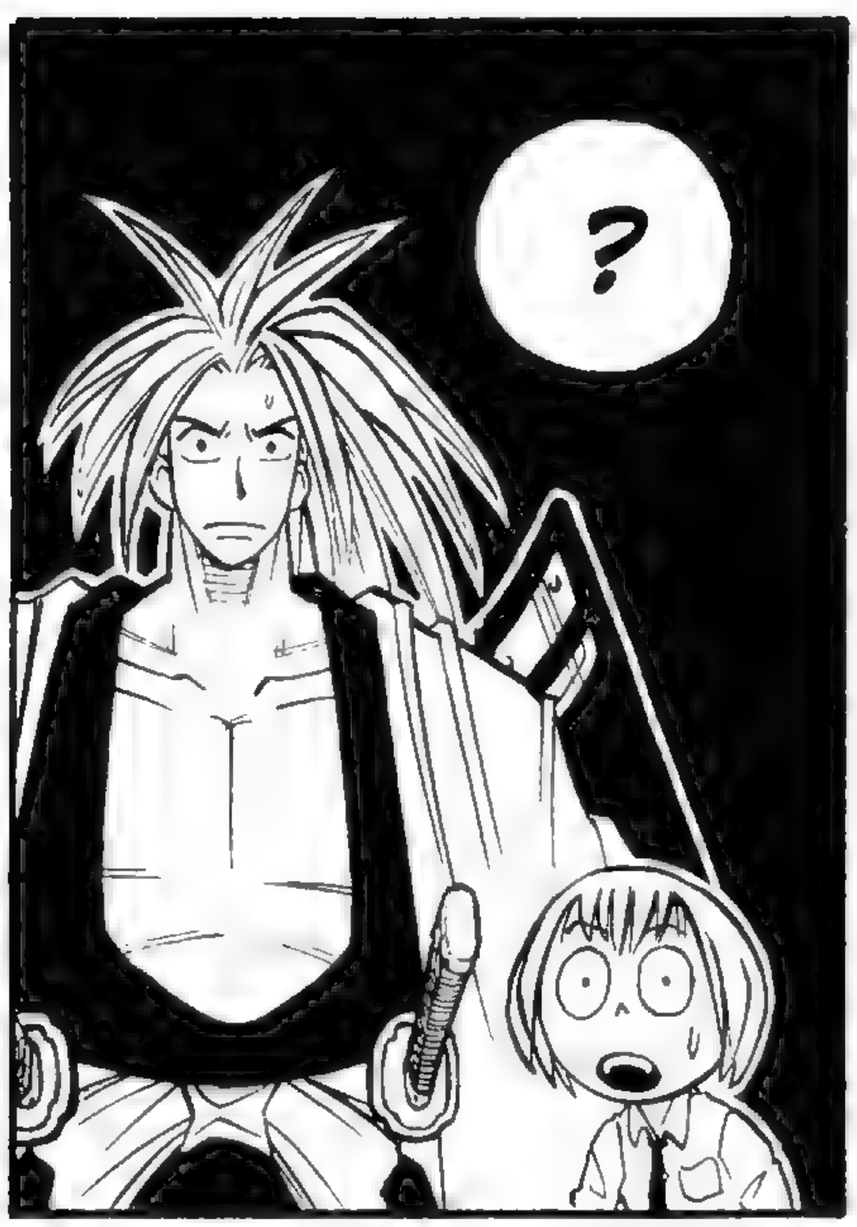

WHA-

LEAD THE WAY TO THE ROOF!
AMIDAMARU!

I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF, EVEN IF I MUST DISOBEY YOU!!
THERE ARE NO MORE SAFE PATHS INSIDE.

YOU MUST NOT ENTER.
C'MON, AMIDAMARU!

WON'T YOU FEEL BAD IF YOU LET THEM DIE?
WE CAN'T JUST LET THOSE KIDS BURN.
BUT I WOULD FEEL WORSE IF YOU WERE TO DIE!!
OF... COURSE... BUT...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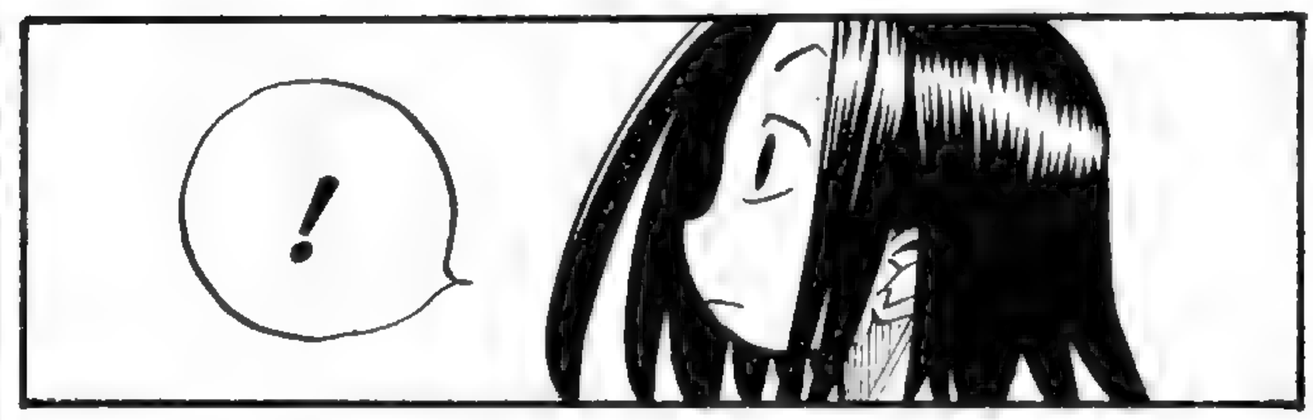

!

THAT MAKES TWO OF US.
...
heh

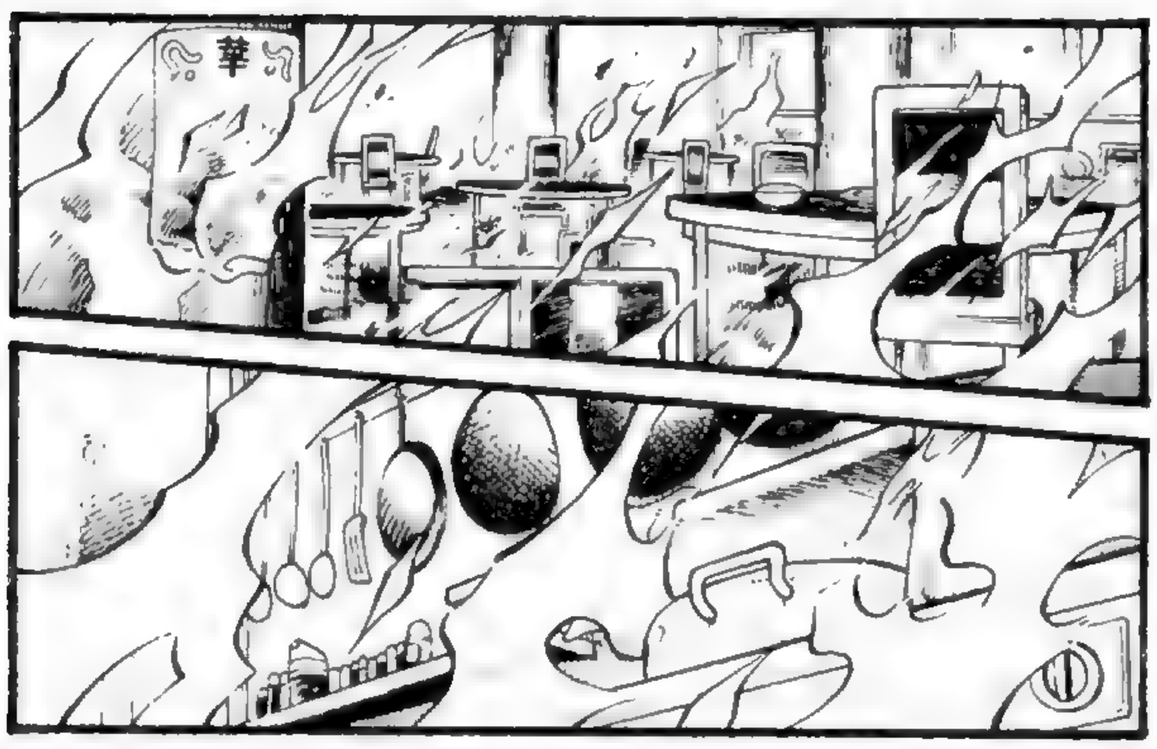
READ THIS WAY

YOH!!

!

SO YOU BETTER KEEP ME ALIVE!

WHAM



HUH?

KER-
KRAK

I'D BETTER HURRY.
↓3F
LOVE & FIRE
KLAK
KLAKKLAK
IN STORE NOW

UH...
CHINK

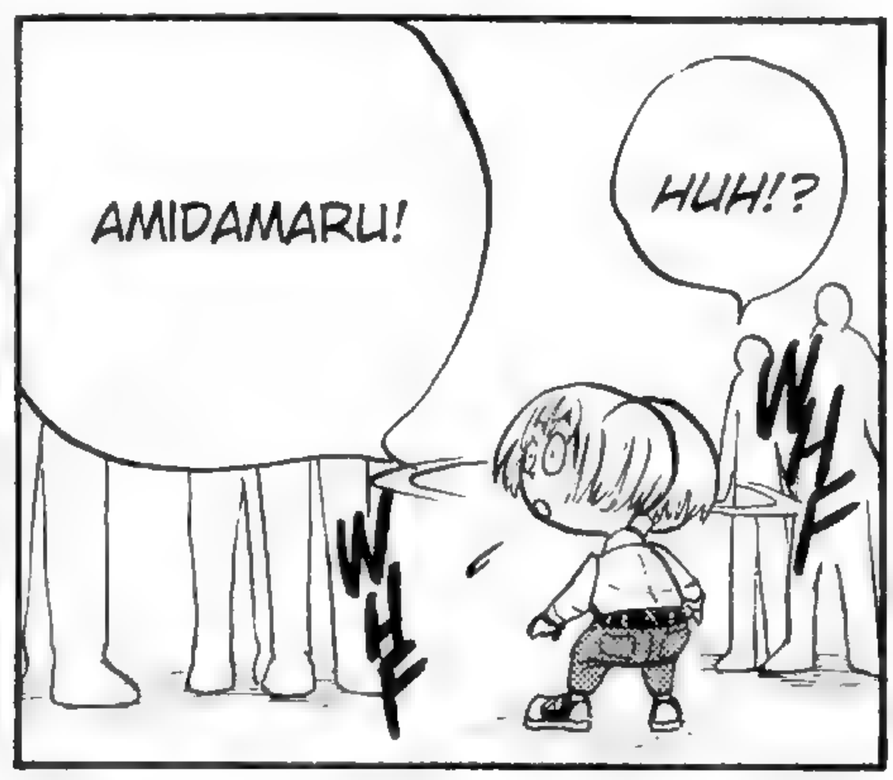
CHINK
OH!
CHINK
CHINK
CHINK
OH-
CHINK
CHINK

PANANAB
!

KRAASH
YOW!!

IN TRUTH...

...THIS IS UTTER RECKLESS-NESS.

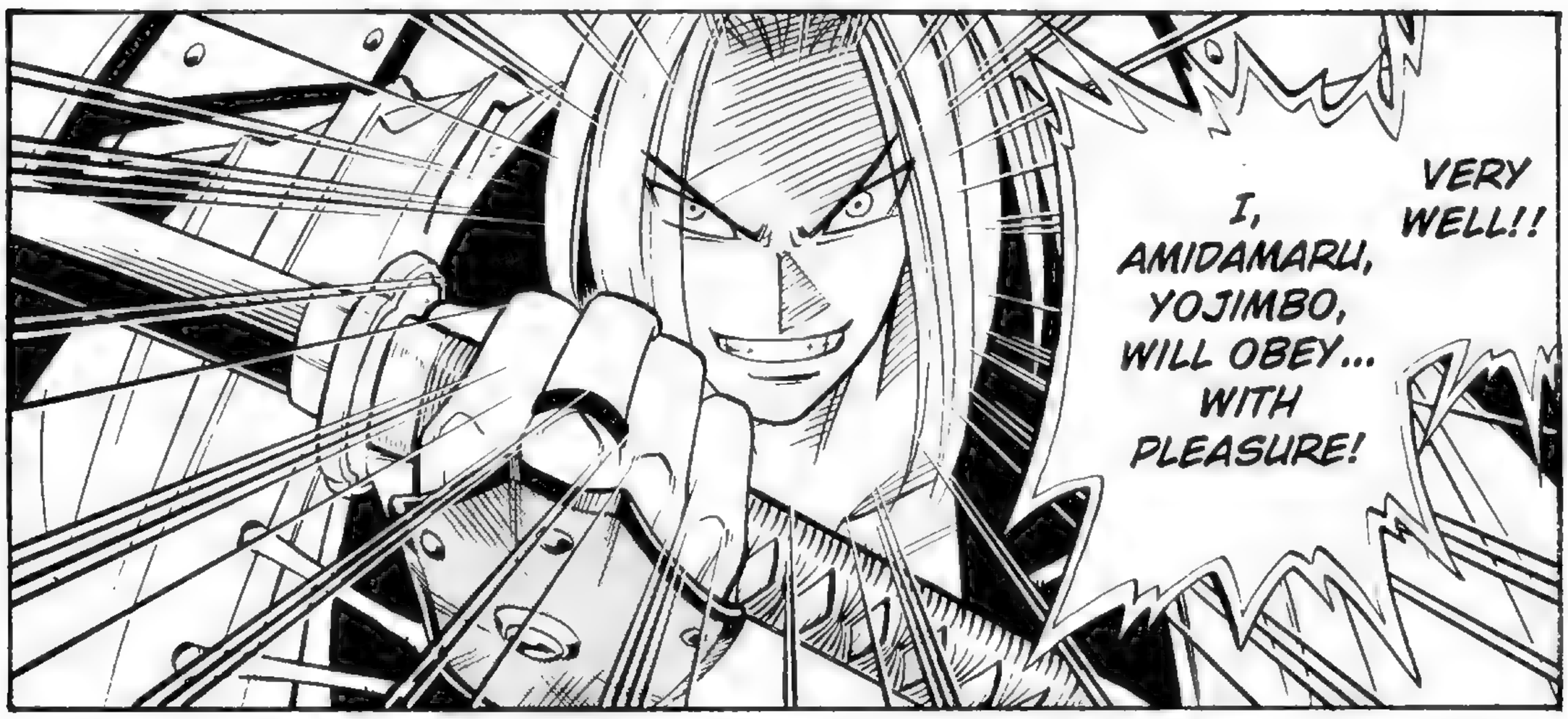


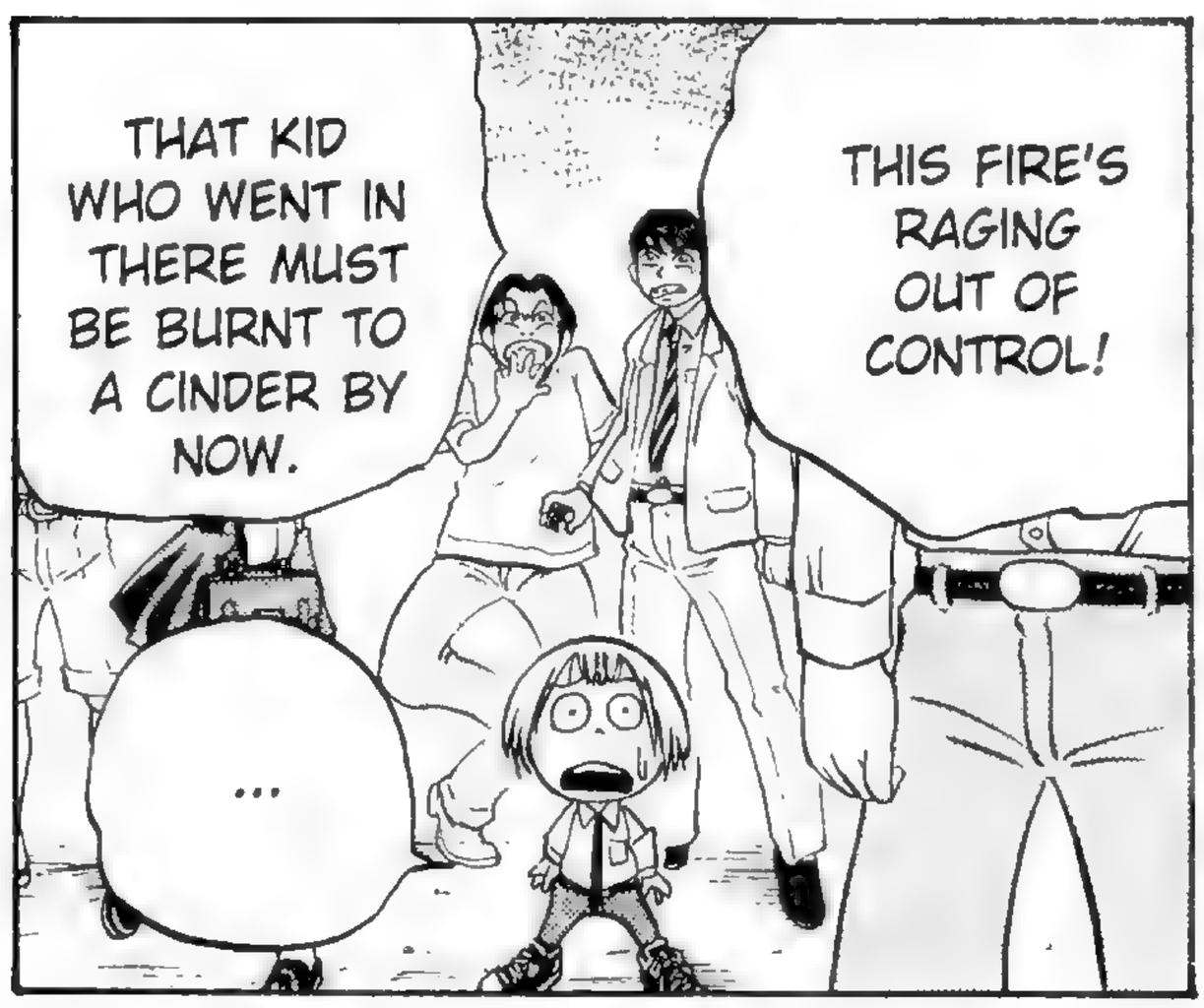
IF I HAD NOT MERGED WITH LORD YOH AND BROKEN THE FALLING CEILING HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!

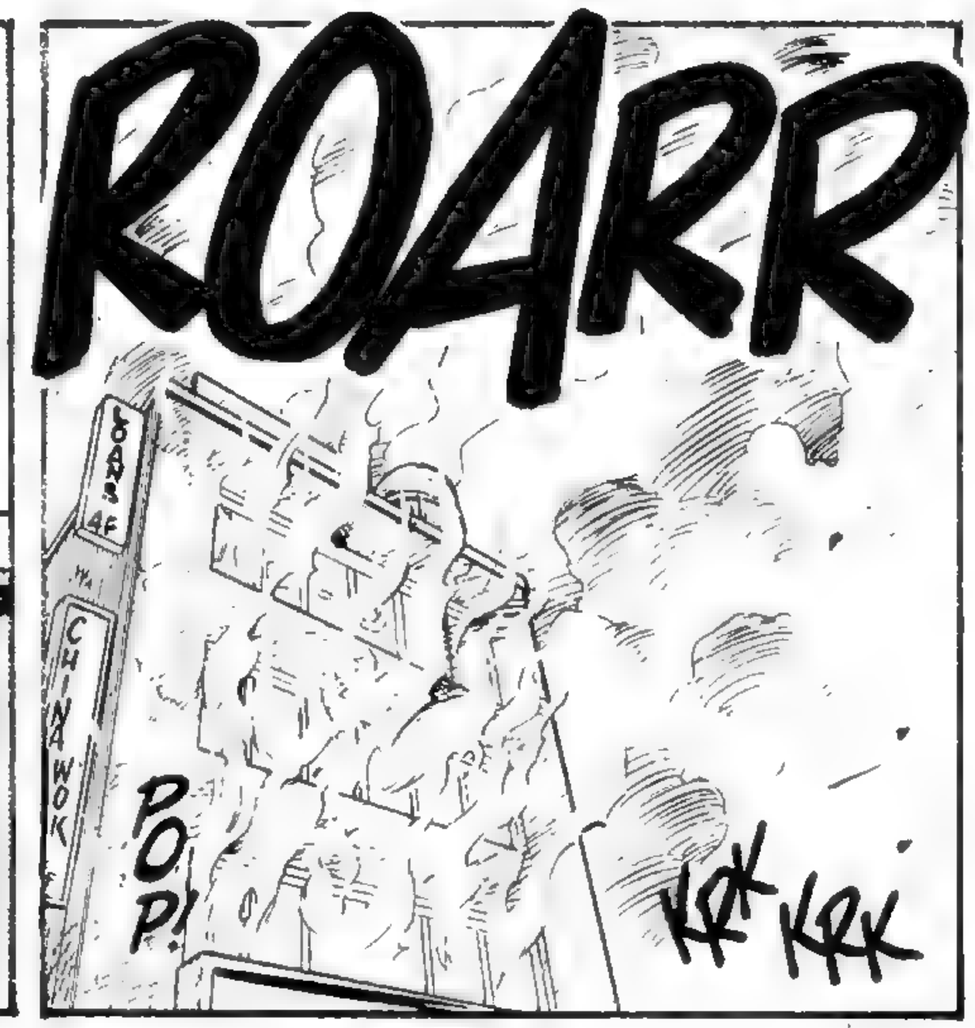
OOM

KRK KRK
IN OTHER WORDS...
HE TRUSTED ME THAT MUCH.

SO I'D BETTER KEEP HIM ALIVE, EH?
...HEH.


I, AMIDAMARU, YOJIMBO, WILL OBEY... WITH PLEASURE!
VERY WELL!!


THAT KID WHO WENT IN THERE MUST BE BURNT TO A CINDER BY NOW.
THIS FIRE'S RAGING OUT OF CONTROL!
...


ROARR
CHINA WOK
POP!
KRK KRK

BE STRONG, YOU TWO!!

YOH!! AMIDA-MARU!!

Y-Y-Y...

Y--

Plosh

!

THE EMERGENCY WATER TANK RUPTURED! THE FIRE'S GOING OUT!

WATER!!

?

?

?

JACKY

SUUUU

YOH!

YOH!

YOH!

AMIDA-
MARU!!

YOH MERGED WITH AMIDAMARU AND BROKE OPEN THE WATER TANK!!

...!!

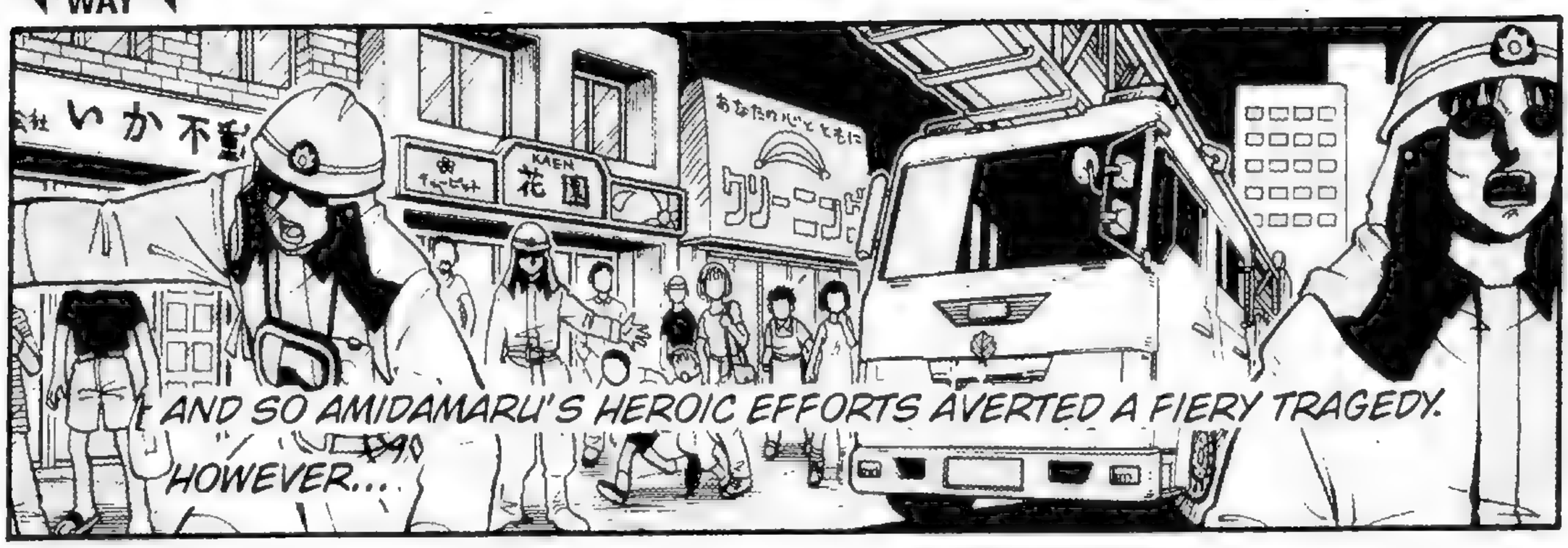
AFTER THAT, THIS SHOULD BE NOTHING.

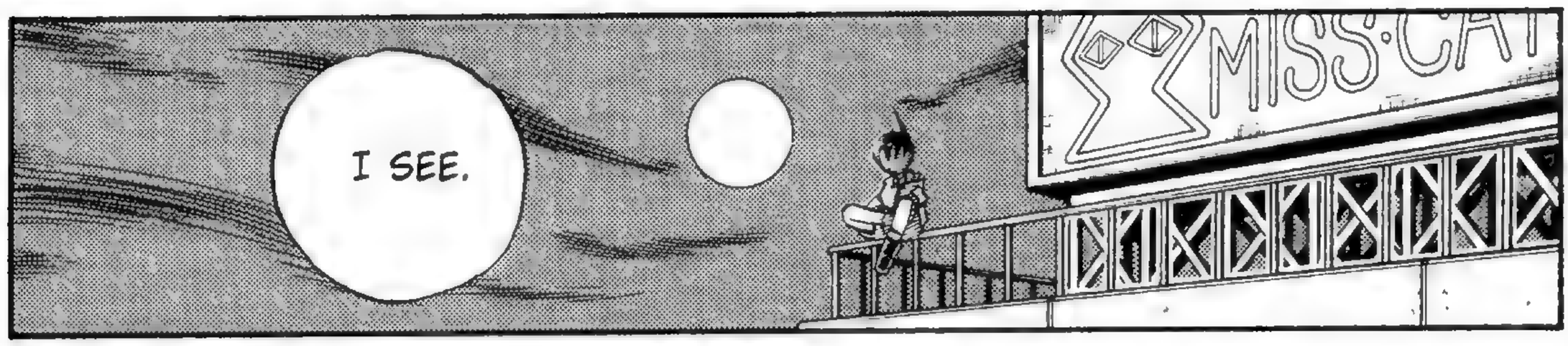
BUT BEING LORD YOH'S BODYGUARD IS NEVER...

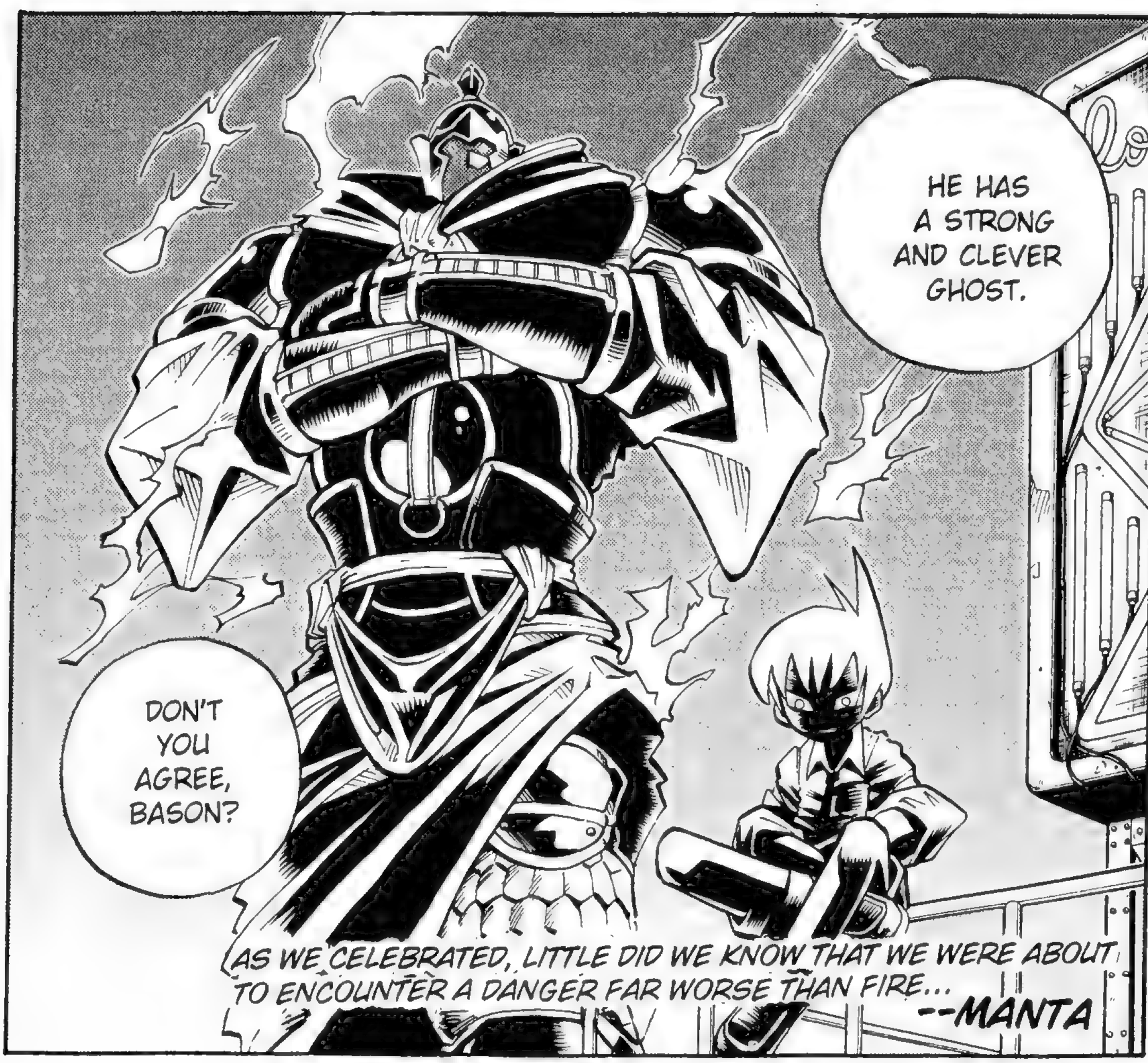
I LIVED IN AN AGE WHEN A MAN'S LIFE DEPENDED ON HIS COURAGE AND SKILL WITH A SWORD...

HMPH.

...
BORING.


いか不動
KAEN
花園
クリーニング
AND SO AMIDAMARU'S HEROIC EFFORTS AVERTED A FIERY TRAGEDY.
HOWEVER...

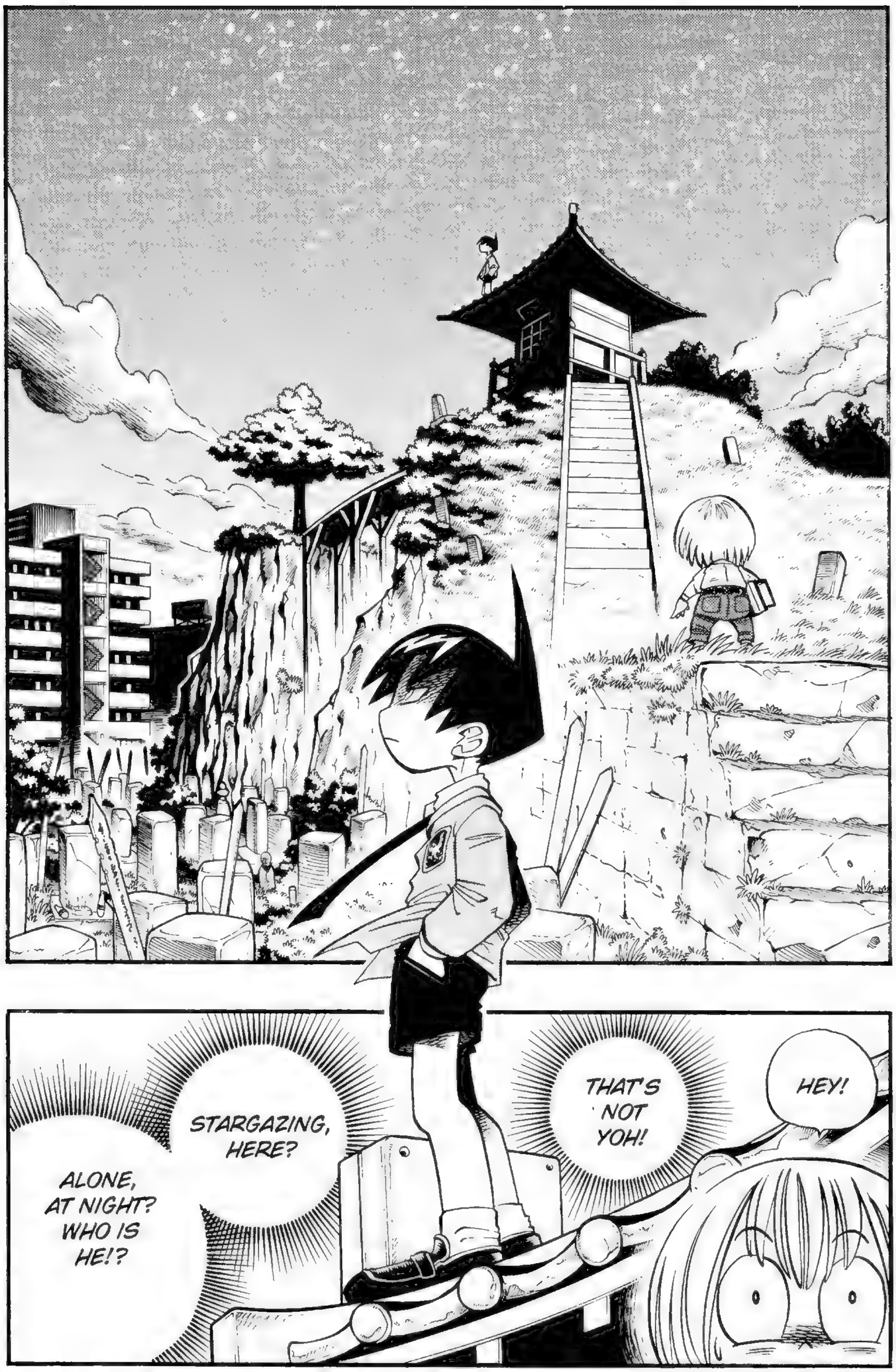

I SEE.
MISS·CAT

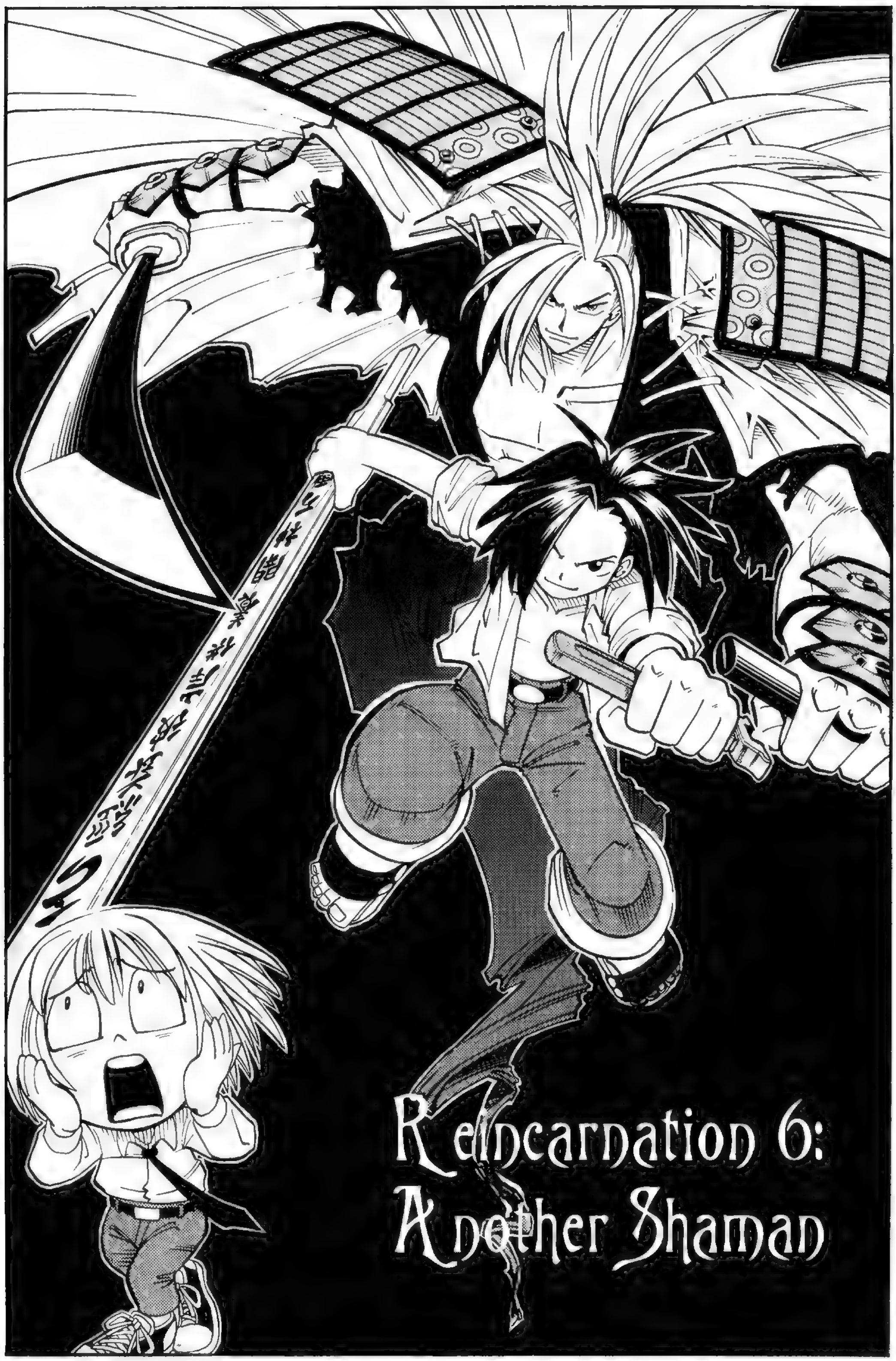

HE HAS A STRONG AND CLEVER GHOST.
DON'T YOU AGREE, BASON?
AS WE CELEBRATED, LITTLE DID WE KNOW THAT WE WERE ABOUT TO ENCOUNTER A DANGER FAR WORSE THAN FIRE...
--MANTA

MANTA OYAMADA

- Shinra Private Junior High
- 7th Grade • Age: 13
- Birthday: September 5
- Star Sign: Virgo
- Blood Type: O
- Manta's last name, *Oyamada*, means "small mountain field."

REINCARNATION 6: ANOTHER SHAMAN


ALONE, AT NIGHT? WHO IS HE!?
STARGAZING, HERE?
THAT'S NOT YOH!
HEY!



Reincarnation 6: Another Shaman

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THERE ARE NO STARS IN TOKYO?
!

I GUESS YOH'S NOT THE ONLY WEIRDO OUT THERE...
...

I GOTTA HURRY HOME OR I'LL MISS MY SHOW...
BOING
NO! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!

THOSE WHO CANNOT INTERPRET THE MOVEMENTS OF THE STARS LOSE THEIR WAY AND PERISH.
DO YOU BELONG TO THE IGNORANT MASSES WHO IGNORE THE STARS?
THE STARS ARE THE STREETLIGHTS THAT GUIDE HUMANKIND.

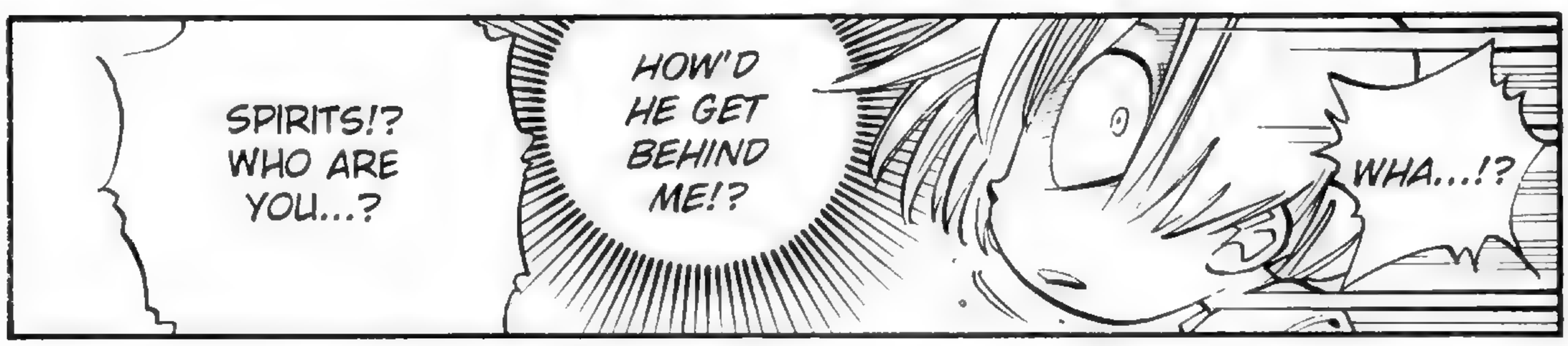
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT UNDER-STAND...
HA...YOU CAN'T CALL THESE TRUE STARS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NO STARS!? THIS IS THE BEST STARGAZING SPOT IN TOWN.
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM? IS HE CRAZY?
IGNORANT MASSES!? ARROGANT, EH!?
hmf

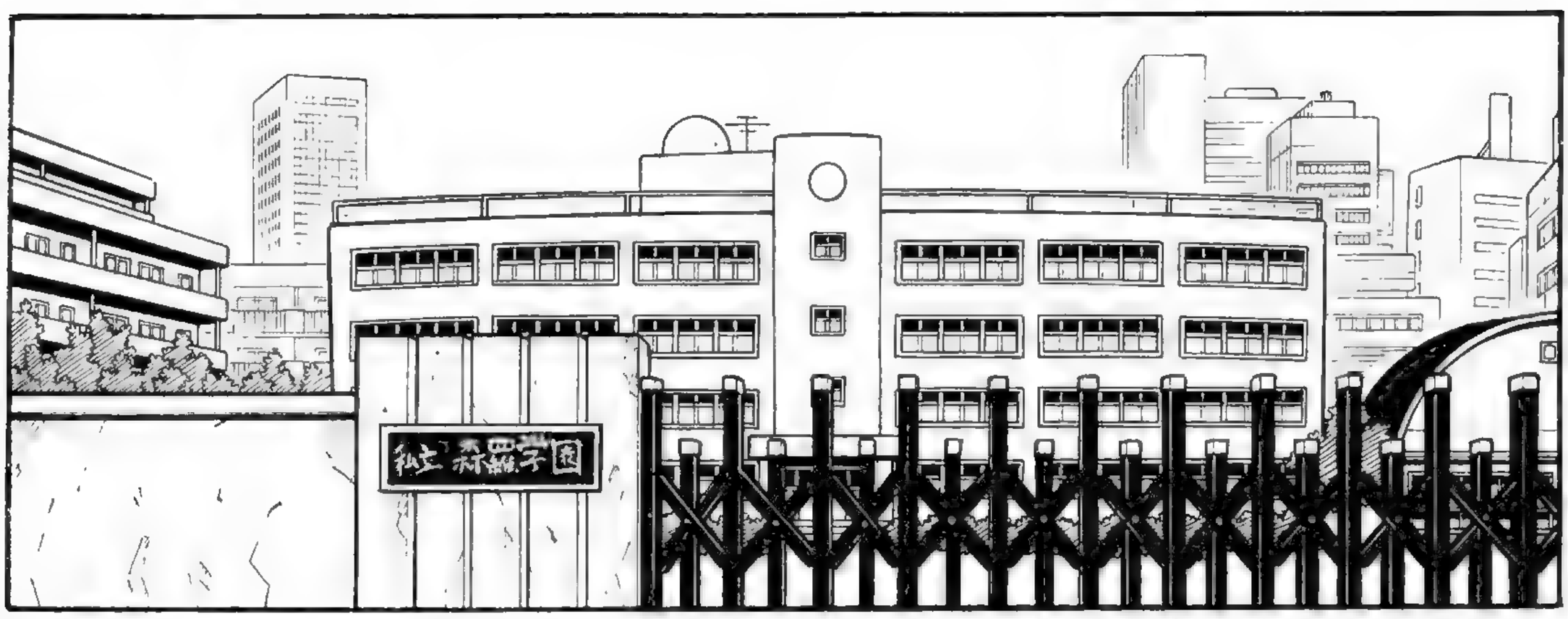
DOOM

BECAUSE YOU ALSO...

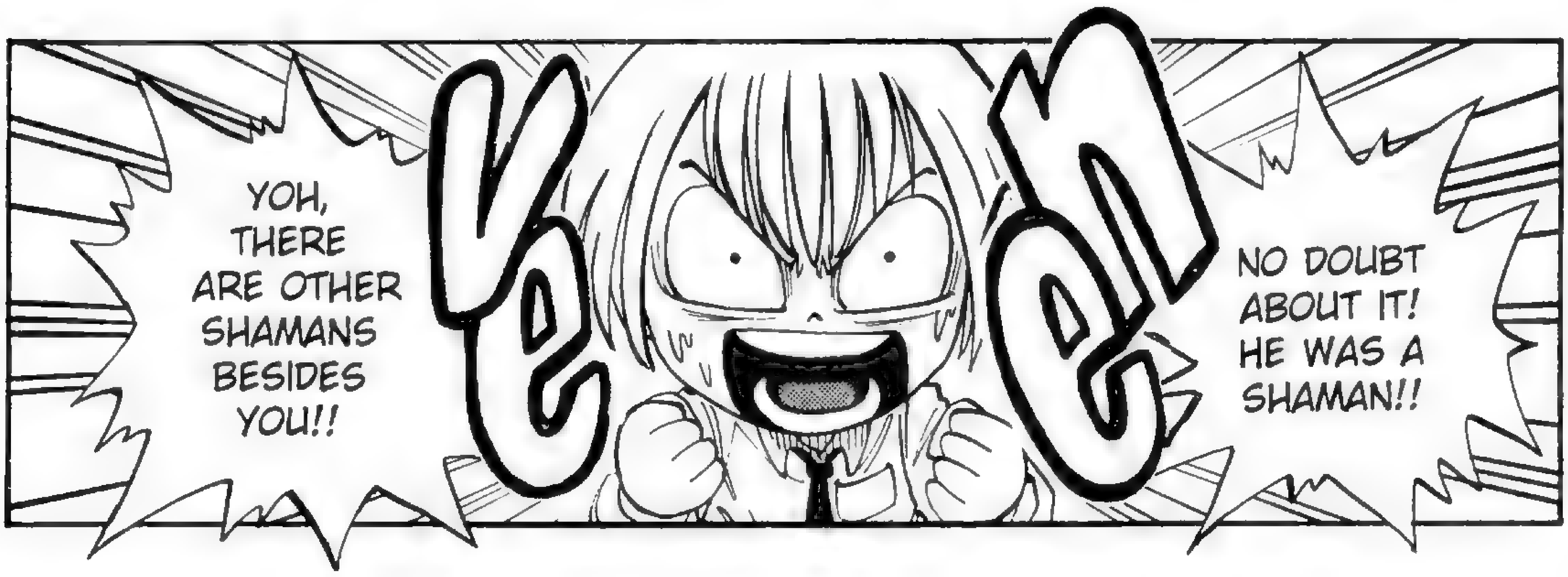
... CAN SEE SPIRITS.

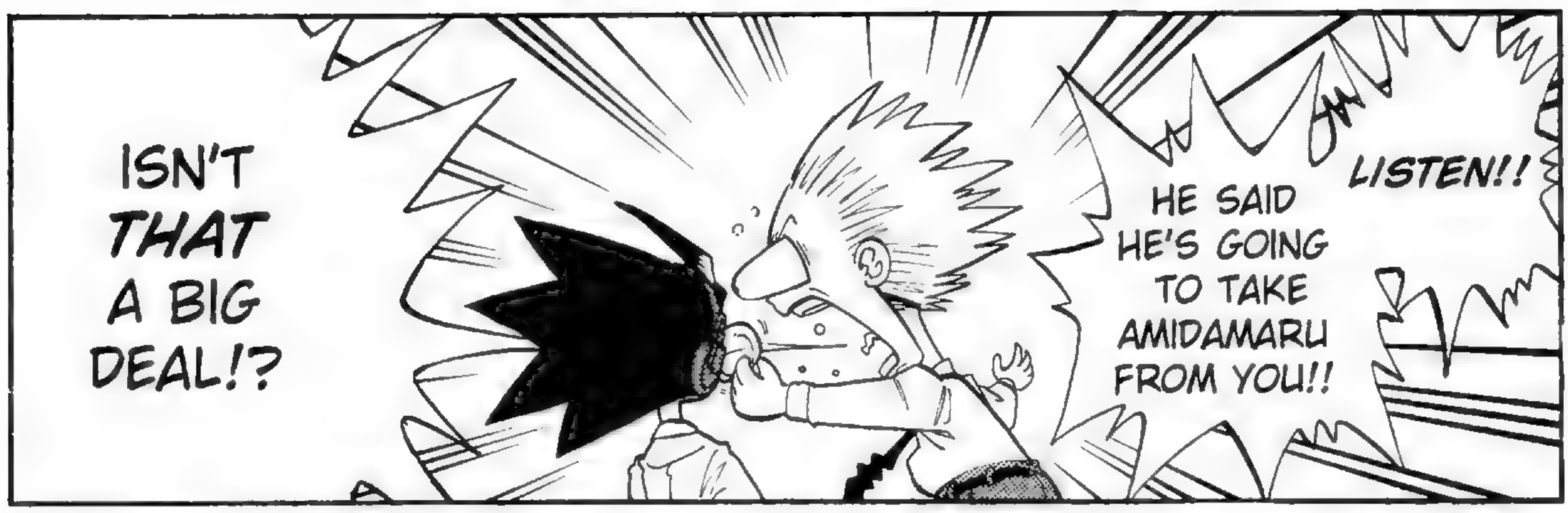


TELL HIM THAT HIS SAMURAI GHOST WILL BE MINE.
YAAAH!!
WH--

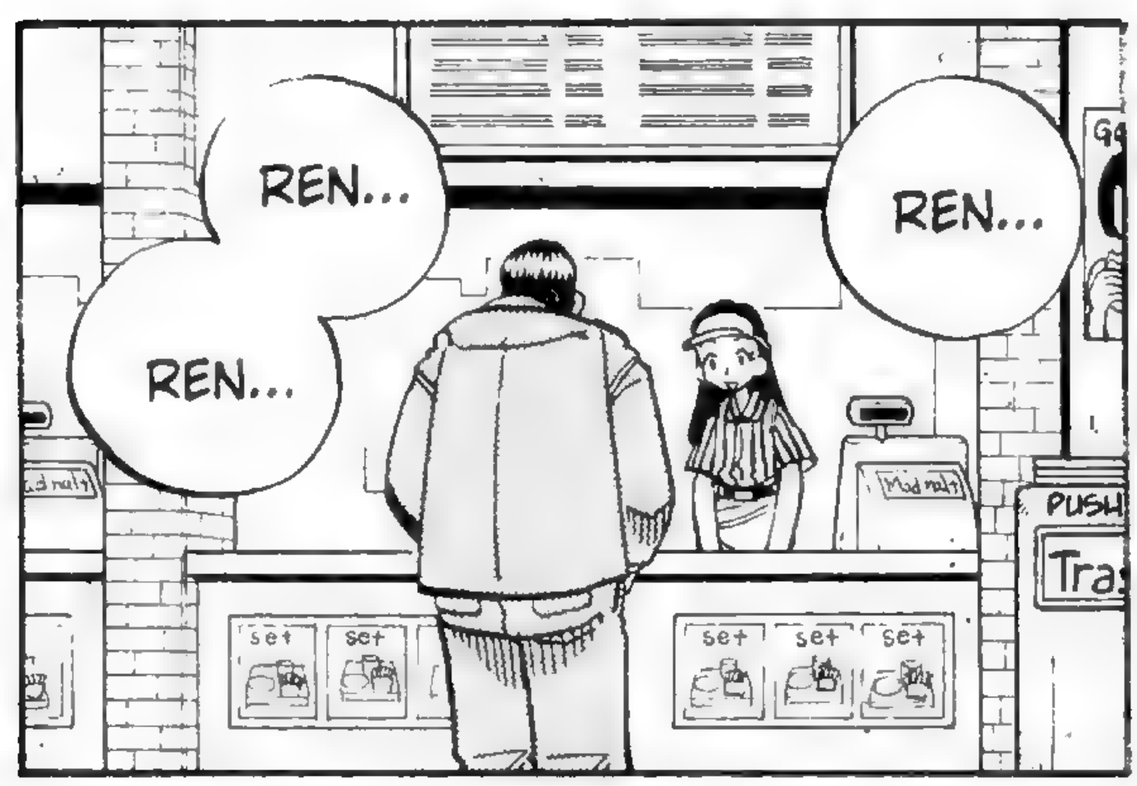


*SHINRA PRIVATE ACADEMY

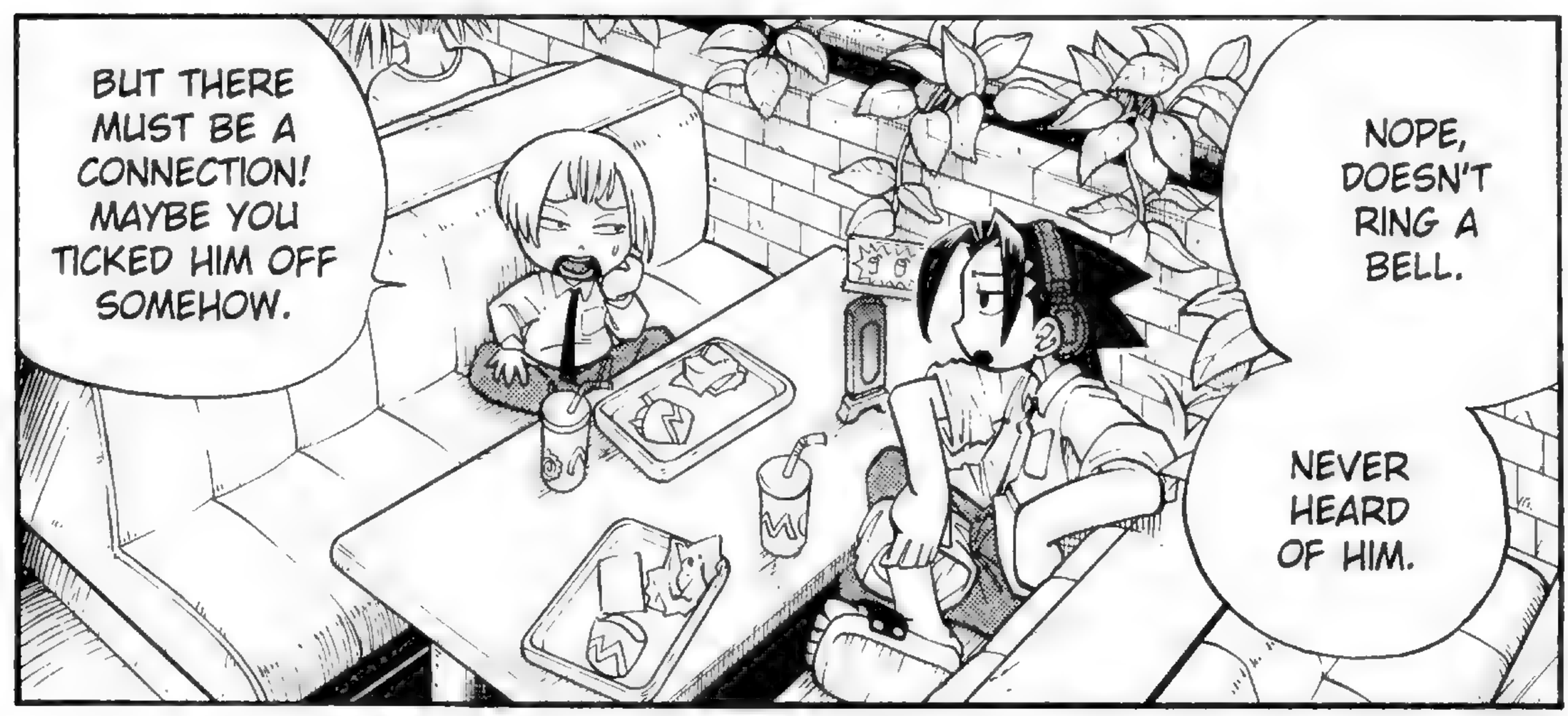



ISN'T THAT A BIG DEAL!?
HE SAID HE'S GOING TO TAKE AMIDAMARU FROM YOU!!
LISTEN!!

...AMIDA-MARU?
Ding
Ding
...

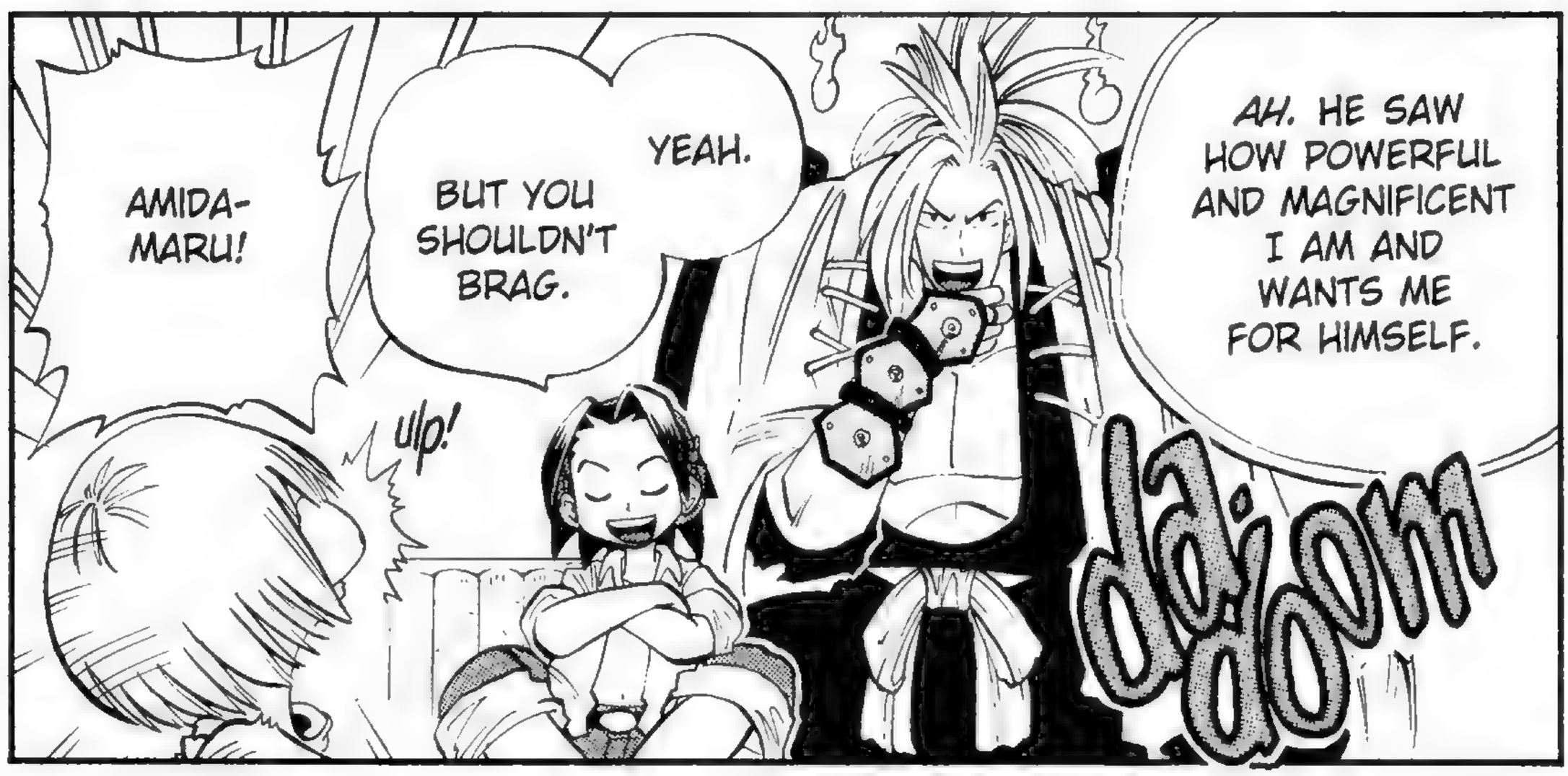

REN...
REN...
REN...
set
set
set
set
set
PUSH

Mad Nalt
big Nalt
100円!!
うまいじゃん!
マッドナルト!!
Mad set


BUT THERE MUST BE A CONNECTION! MAYBE YOU TICKED HIM OFF SOMEHOW.
NOPE, DOESN'T RING A BELL.
NEVER HEARD OF HIM.

MAYBE HE SAW ME AND AMIDAMARU IN ACTION.
REMEMBER, I TOLD YOU THAT A SHAMAN'S RANK DEPENDS ON THE STRENGTH OF HIS GHOST?

WHAT?
I DON'T THINK SO... UNLESS...
hmm


AMIDA-MARU!
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BRAG.
YEAH.
AH. HE SAW HOW POWERFUL AND MAGNIFICENT I AM AND WANTS ME FOR HIMSELF.
ulp!
dadoom

HEH HEH HEH. IT'LL BE FINE.

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
HE LOOKED REALLY TOUGH. AND THIS GUY REN HAD FREAKY EYES.

AS A JAPANESE SAMURAI, I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THIS CHINESE WARLORD OF HIS.

SO YOU CAN STOP WORRYING.

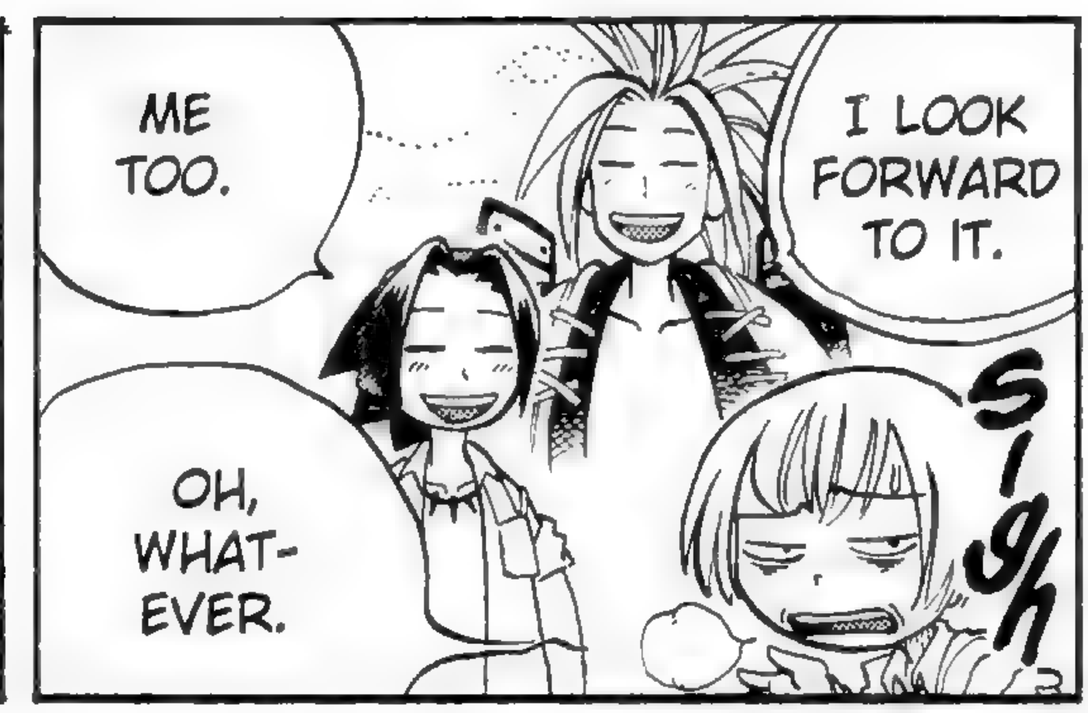
PEOPLE WHO SEE SPIRITS CAN'T BE EVIL.

YES! AND I WANT TO MEET THIS CHINESE WARLORD TOO!

HE COULD BE MY FIRST SHAMAN FRIEND.

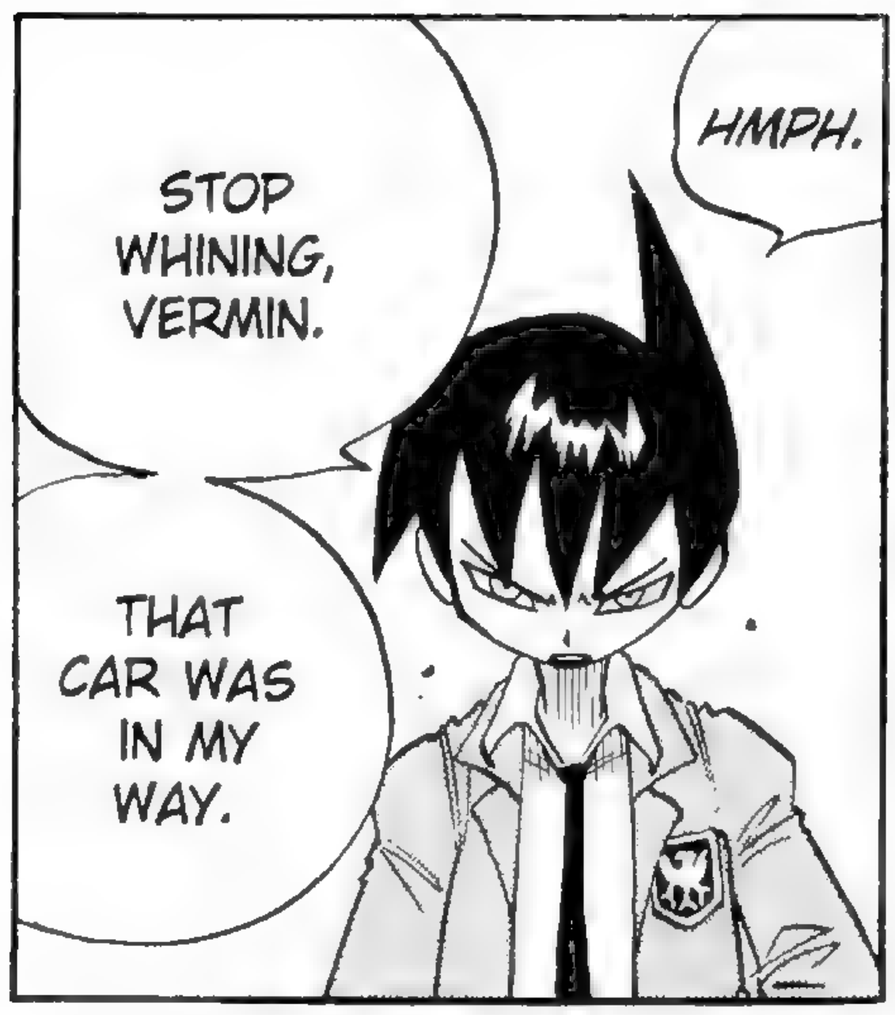
heh heh heh

I'M SURE HIS INTENTIONS ARE GOOD. I WANNA MEET HIM.



THOSE PUNKS ARE GONNA SMASH HIM!!

IT'S THAT KID!!!


STOP WHINING, VERMIN.
HMPH.
THAT CAR WAS IN MY WAY.

I DO NOT SEE THE GHOST OF THE WARLORD...
HIM?
OH...
WHAT IS HAPPENING?

WHO YOU CALLIN' VERMIN!?
BAM
SAY WHAT!? YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KICK IT!

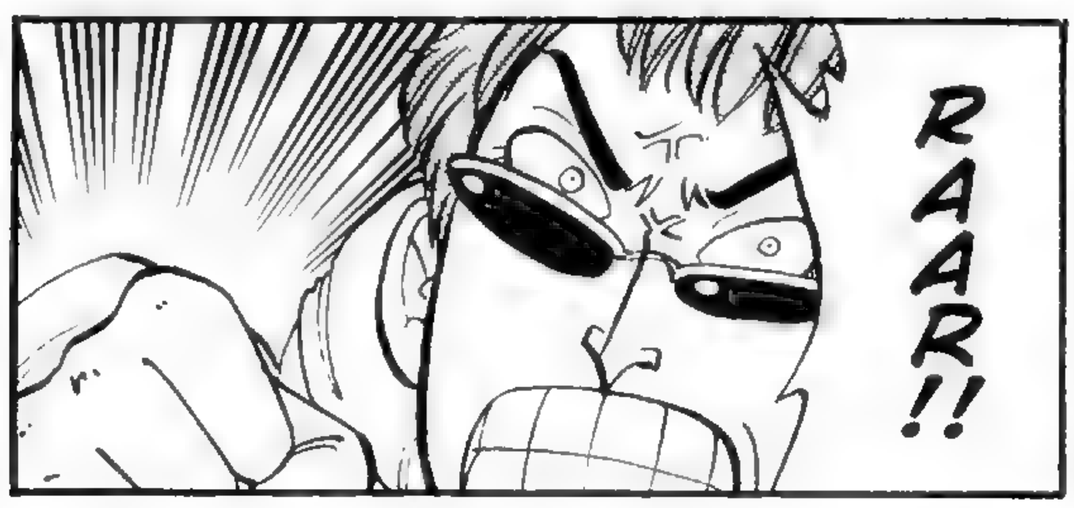
grr
!
grrr

YOU COCKROACHES THAT PREY ON THE EARTH!
THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU VERMIN...
GLARE

YOUR CAR SPEWS POLLUTANTS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AND OBSCURES THE STARS.

DON'T MESS WITH US!

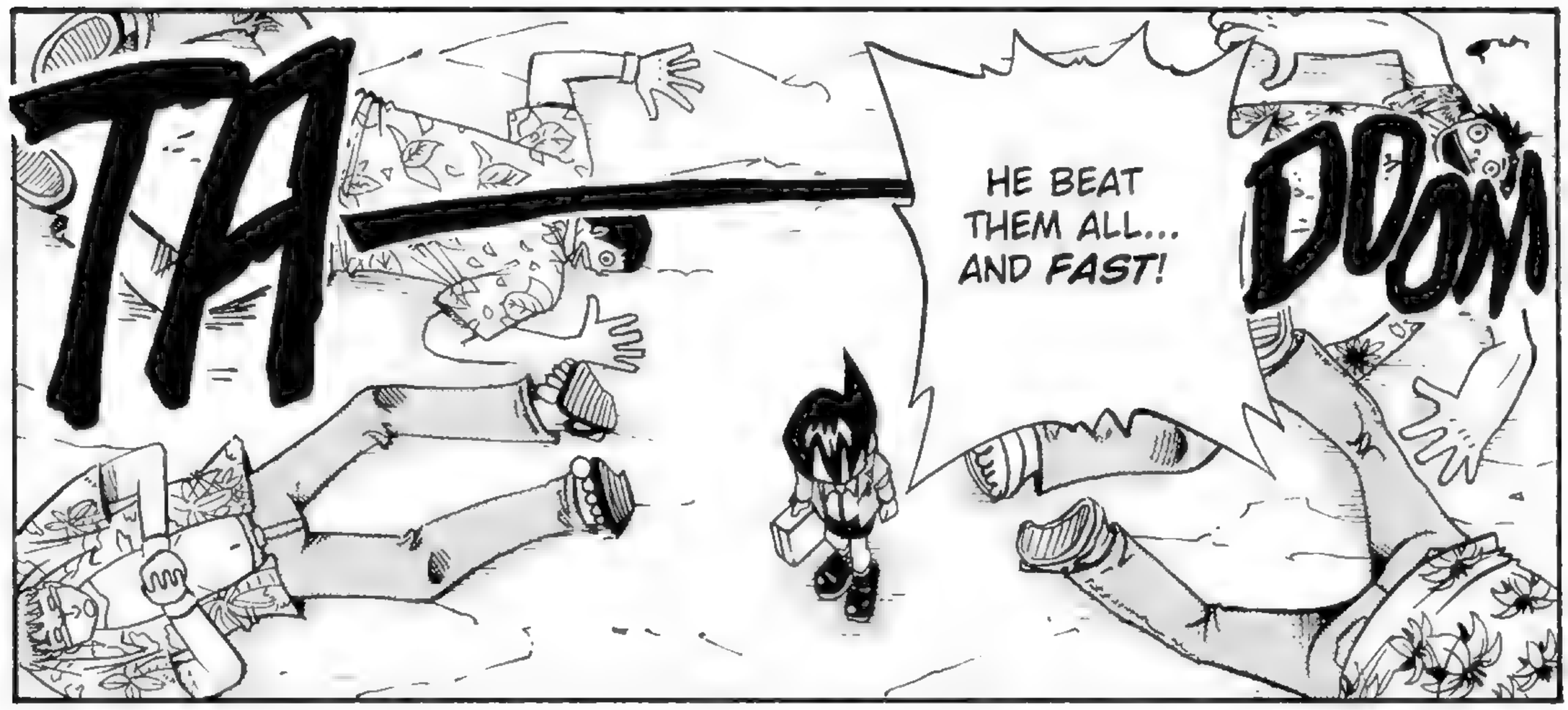
YOU STUPID GREEN-BEAN!

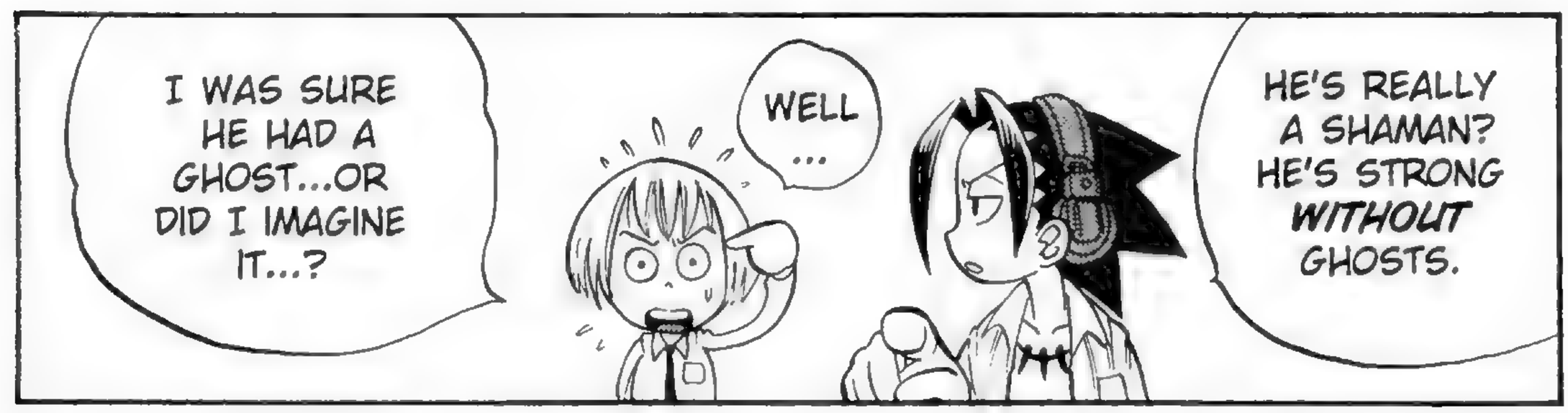


WAK WAK WAK

!

LOOK AT HIM MOVE!!
Ke Ak
POW
Fwam
mash
Beat
KUNG FU.
WOW ...
WUNK


TA
HE BEAT THEM ALL... AND *FAST*!
DOOM

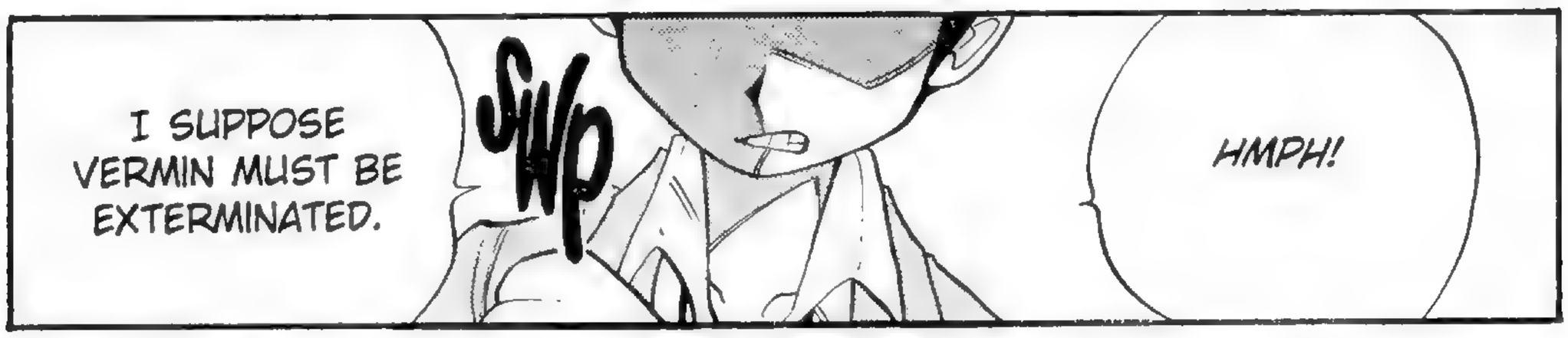

I WAS SURE HE HAD A GHOST...OR DID I IMAGINE IT...?
WELL ...
HE'S REALLY A SHAMAN? HE'S STRONG *WITHOUT* GHOSTS.

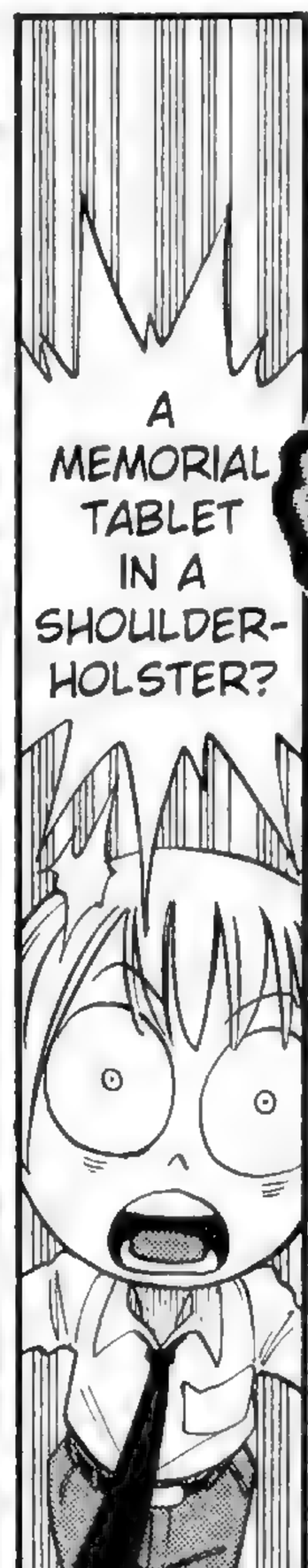
HEY!
!
IDIOT... I'LL KILL YOU...!!
...I-
ARK

SKREEEE

HE'S GONNA RUN HIM DOWN!!

THAT GUY IN THE CAR!





AAARGH!!!

RAAARR

!!

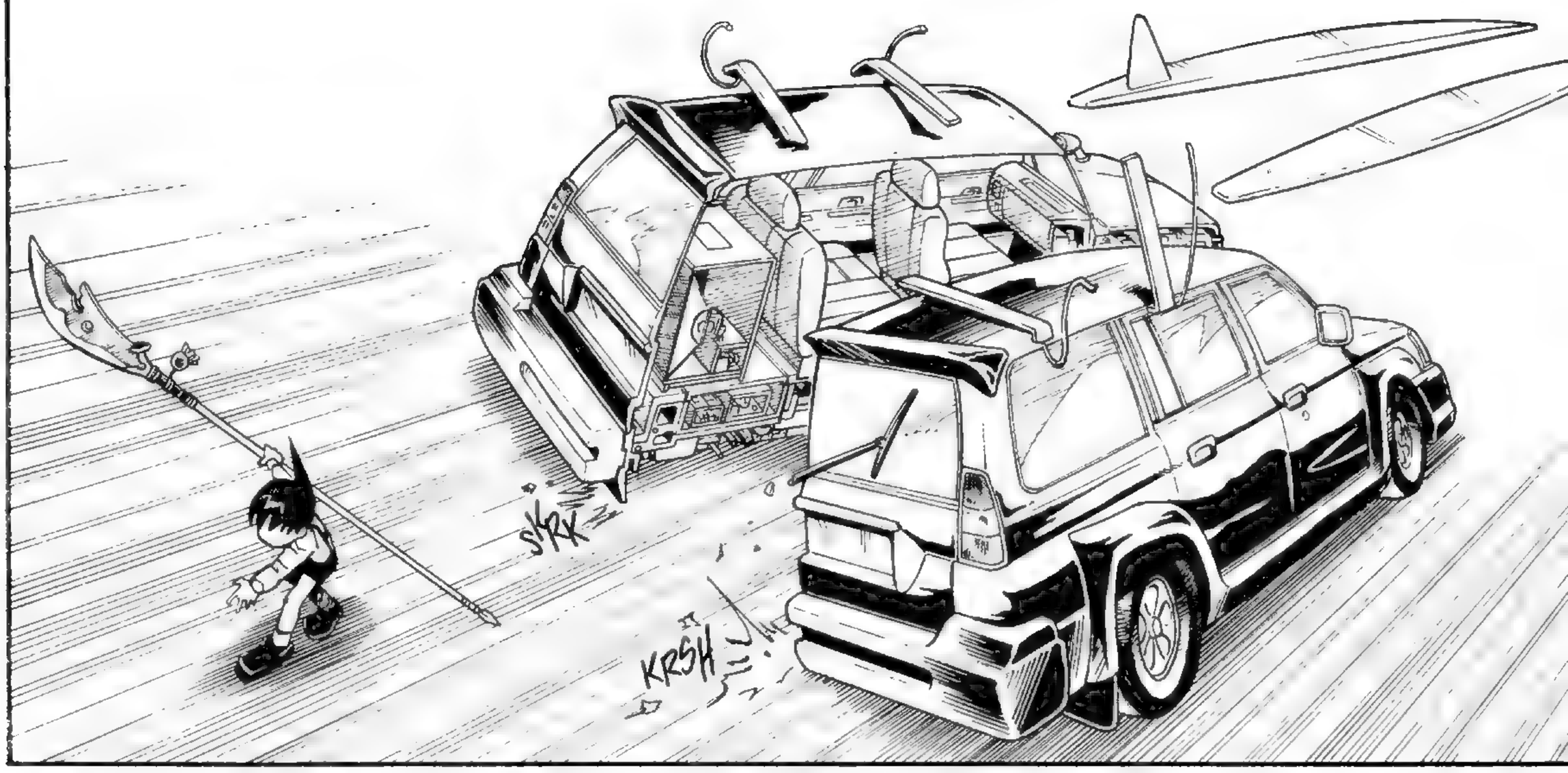
INTEGRATE!!!

BANG

KLONG

THERE HE IS!!

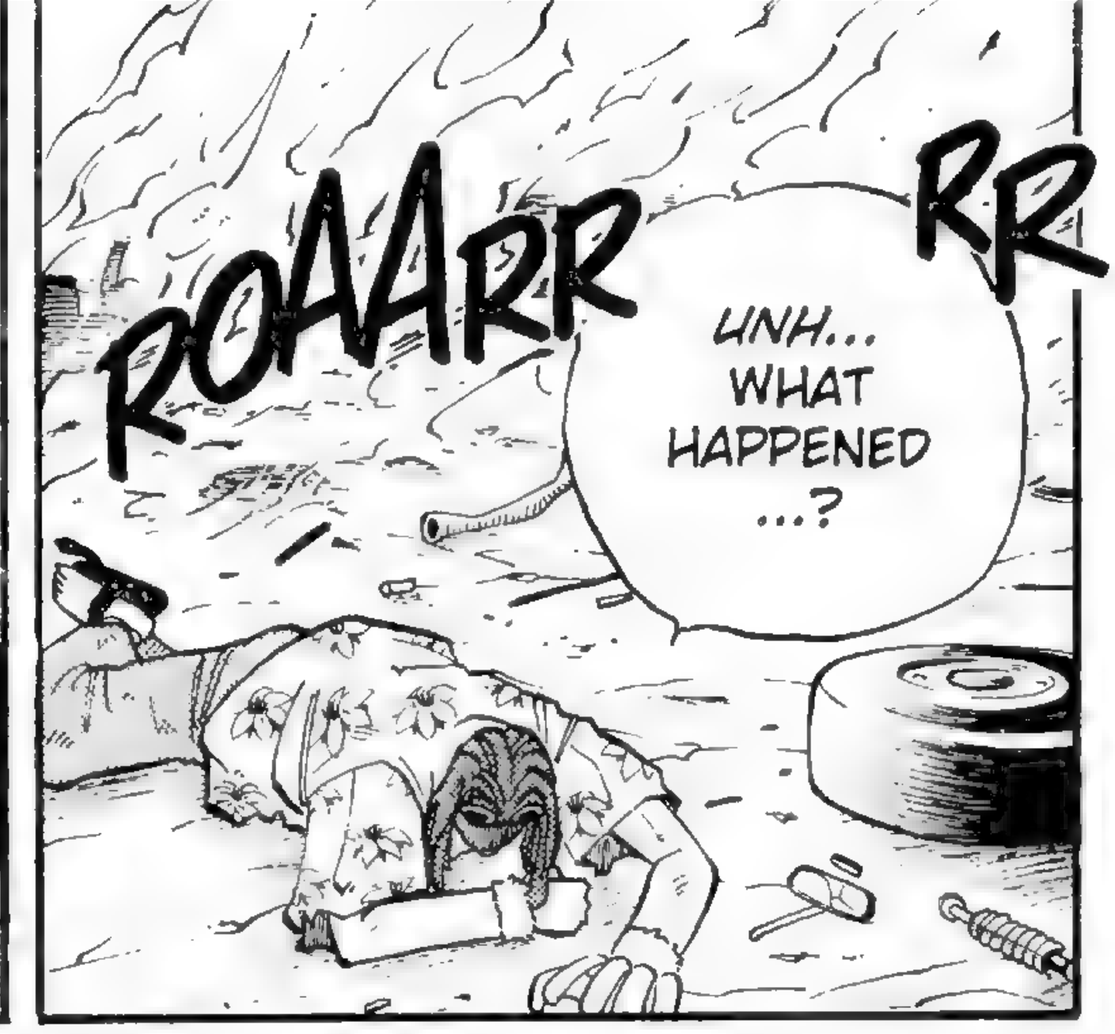
VORPAL DANCE!!!
ZHONG HUA ZHAN WU!!!
BASON


SKRK
KRSH

WHA-
KAPOOO
HE SPLIT THE CAR IN TWO!?

DID YOU SEE THAT, YOH!? THAT'S THE GHOST!
AMAZING!

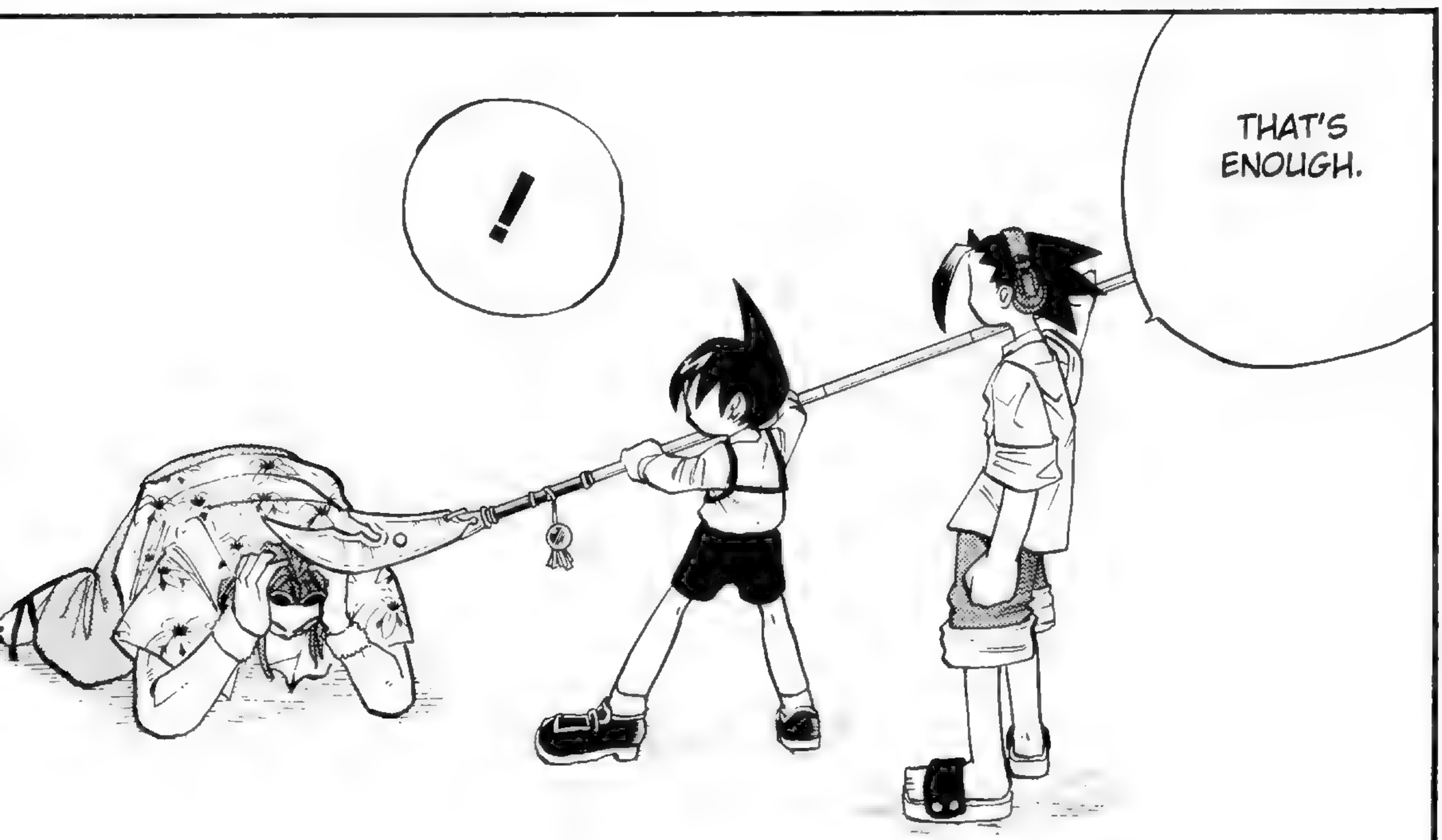
!
SHUNK


ROAARR
RR
UNH... WHAT HAPPENED ...?

WHA ..!? WHA ..!?

BUT DIE YOU WILL.

HMM... COCKROACHES DIE HARD.
DOO


!
THAT'S ENOUGH.

Krch
YOU WITH THE HEAD-PHONES...!

HEH HEH...
THERE YOU ARE.

A SHAMAN DOESN'T TAKE HUMAN LIVES!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

CALM YOURSELF. THEIR LIVES ARE WORTHLESS.
AS A SHAMAN, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT.
SWP

...

NEVER WAS THERE AN AGE SO IGNORANT OF SPIRITUAL THINGS.

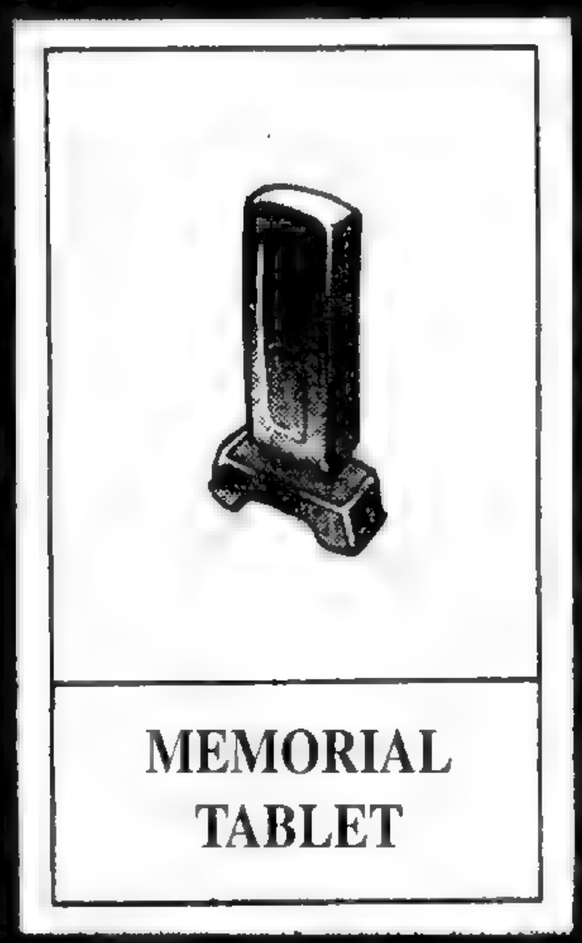
THEY POLLUTE THE SKIES AND THE STARS HAVE HIDDEN THEMSELVES. THEY RUSH AROUND FRANTICALLY TO ESCAPE THEIR LACK OF INNER PEACE.

I AM THE ONE WHO WILL BE THE RULER OF ALL SHAMANS, AND PURIFY THIS WORLD.

THIS WORLD IS TOO POLLUTED... DON'T YOU AGREE?

AND FOR THAT...*I NEED YOUR GHOST.*

SHAMAN
KING
1



AND I NEED MANY POWERFUL GHOSTS FOR THAT.

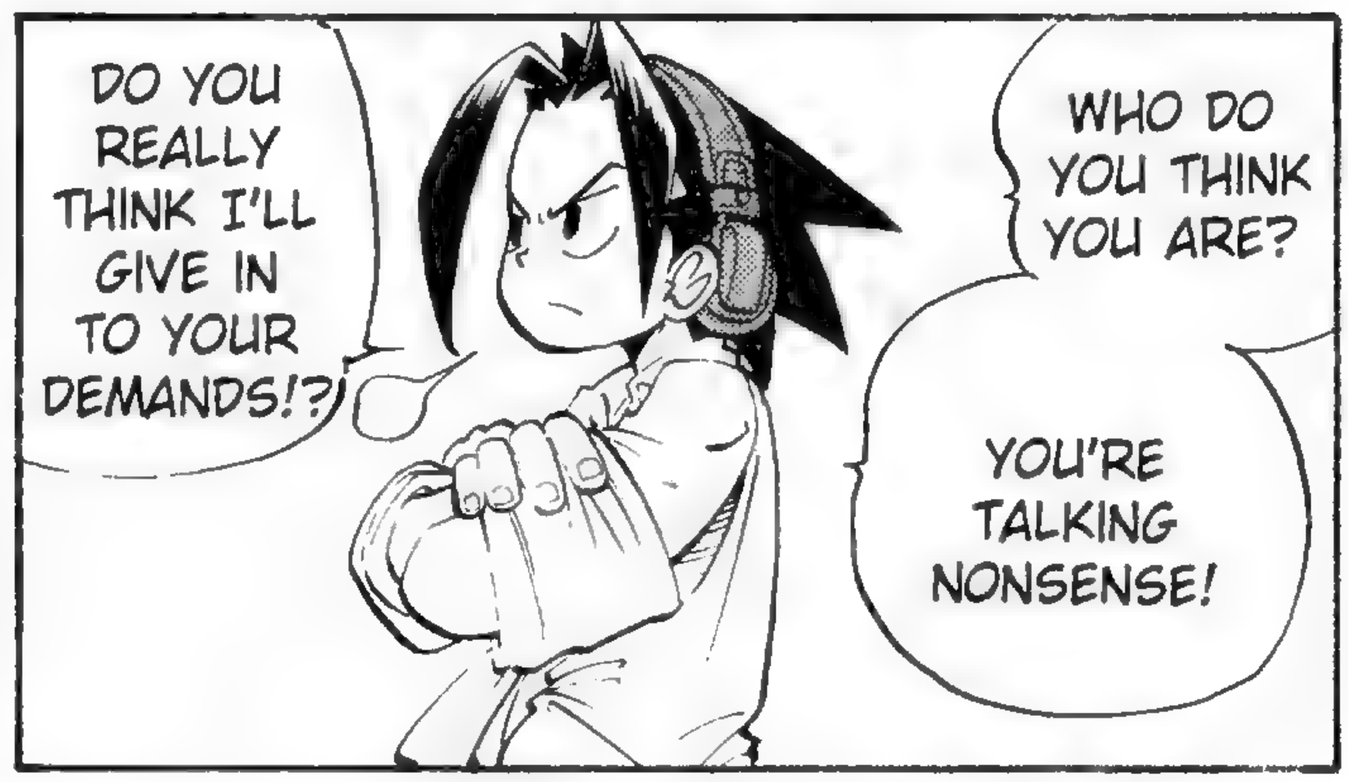
I WILL BE THE RULER OF ALL SHAMANS, AND PURIFY THIS WORLD.

HWOOOOOOOO

REINCARNATION 7: SHAMAN VS. SHAMAN

HUH!?
WHAT?
NO.

HEH... SHOULD I HAVE SAID "PLEASE?"


DO YOU REALLY THINK I'LL GIVE IN TO YOUR DEMANDS!?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE!

I WON'T "HAND HIM OVER" LIKE HE'S AN OBJECT.
NO!
AMIDAMARU IS MY FRIEND!

Reincarnation 7:
Shaman vs Shaman

PFFT...
IF YOU WANT AMIDAMARU'S HELP, JUST ASK US LIKE A FRIEND.
SURE!
FRIEND...?
江礼木電気
江礼木電気
青木書店
ハイ-R
クリーニング

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
?
THAT'S A NEW ONE. WHERE DID YOU GET THAT IDEA?
HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
A GHOST IS YOUR FRIEND!?

IS A CARPENTER "FRIENDS" WITH HIS SAW? HOW ABSURD!
TO A REAL SHAMAN...
...SPIRITS ARE MERE TOOLS FROM WHICH TO DRAW ABILITIES.
SHIK!

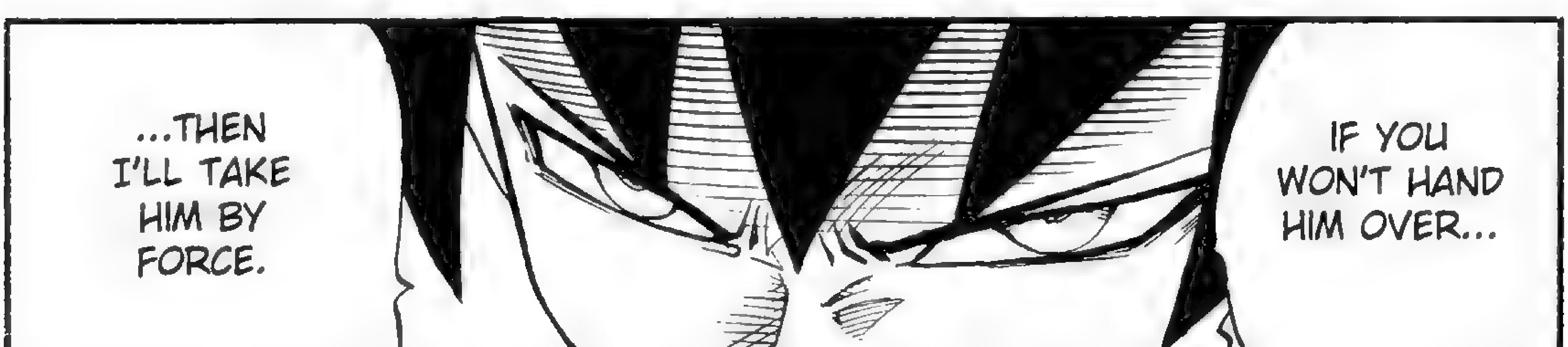
IT'S THE SIMPLE TRUTH. GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
GRMMB
!
TOOLS ...?

RRMMMMMMMMMBB
WHA ...
WHY IS THIS GETTING SO TENSE ALL OF A SUDDEN?

WHAT'S THIS REN GUY THINKING? NORMAL PEOPLE DON'T BRANDISH SPEARS IN PUBLIC.
WE MEET ANOTHER SHAMAN, AND SUDDENLY THERE'S A SHOWDOWN!

YOUR GHOST PARTNER IS IMPRESSIVE, BUT YOU'RE ONLY A BEGINNER.
SHK
HEH!
YOU'RE A SHAMAN AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT THERE MUST BE A RULER OF OUR KIND...
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN...!?

THAT SAMURAI IS TOO GOOD FOR YOU.
A POWERFUL GHOST DESERVES A POWERFUL OWNER-- LIKE ME.


IF YOU WON'T HAND HIM OVER...
...THEN I'LL TAKE HIM BY FORCE.

DESTROY THAT SHAMAN !!

BASON!!

KLAM

A GHOST WITHOUT AN OWNER CAN EASILY BE TAMED BY A SKILLED SHAMAN...EVEN AGAINST ITS WILL.

GHOSTS ARE UNSTABLE BEINGS!

DESTROY!?

YOU'RE GOING TO KILL HIM!?

GASP

IS THAT HOW YOU TURNED YOUR GHOST INTO A FIGHTING MACHINE?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF BIG SHOT YOU THINK YOU ARE, BUT...

KRCH

AND IT WILL BE RECAST AS A SPLENDID TOOL!

AMIDAMARU!!
THE WAY YOU TREAT GHOSTS LIKE PROPERTY TICKS ME OFF!
HERE!
YOU HEARD HIS STORY! LET'S TEACH HIM A LESSON! HE'S GOT THINGS ALL WRONG!
THUD
ZAZAZA

HEH HEH, THERE YOU ARE, SAMURAI! IT'S EXCITING TO THINK YOU'LL SOON BE MINE!
heh

I AGREE!
GRR

LET'S GO! INTEGRATE!
WHAT

FGHT

W-WAIT A MINUTE! YOU GUYS ARE REALLY GONNA FIGHT!?
WHOA!

A SAMURAI VS. A CHINESE WARLORD!?

IN REAL LIFE, THEY'D NEVER HAVE SEEN EACH OTHER, LET ALONE FOUGHT!
THEY AREN'T FROM THE SAME COUNTRY... OR THE SAME CENTURY!

ARR!!

RAAR ...!!

HEAT

THIS IS UNPRECE-DENTED!!

KLANG LANG LANG

RAAR!!

NRR!

FWRR

CHCHP

CHG

HMPH!

WANG! WANG WANG WANG

TOMP

THUNK

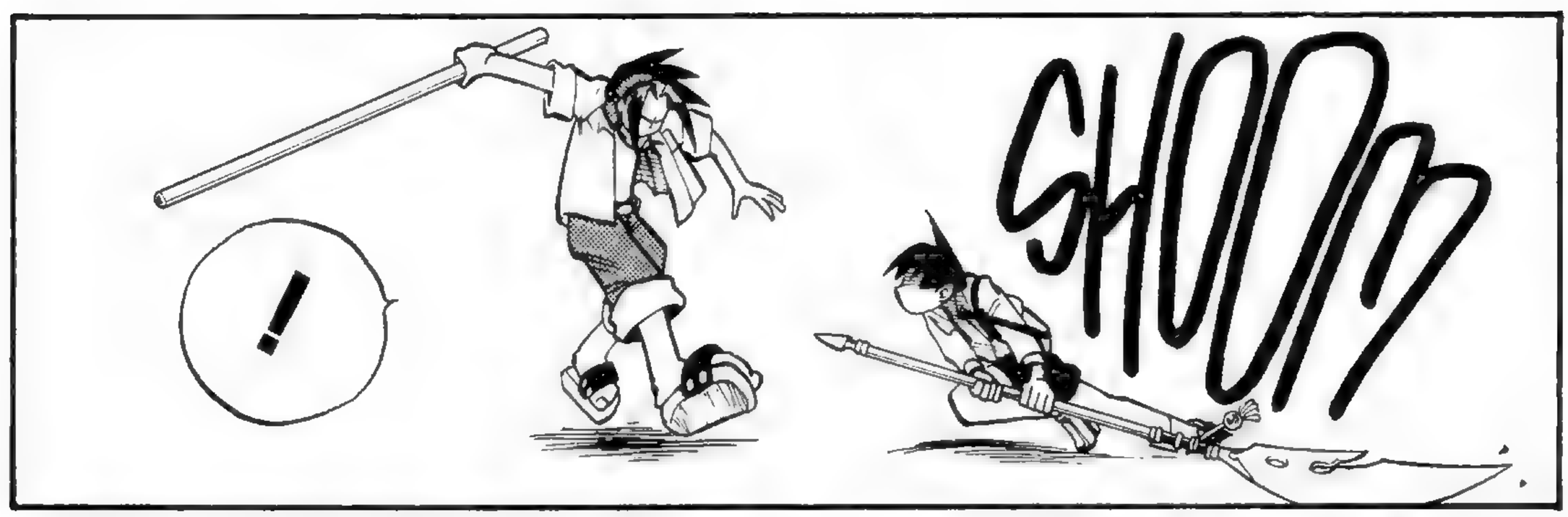
...OOF!

TUNK

Do not interfere with Master Ren.

WHAT ARE YOU TWO THINK-ING!?

HEY, STOP IT!

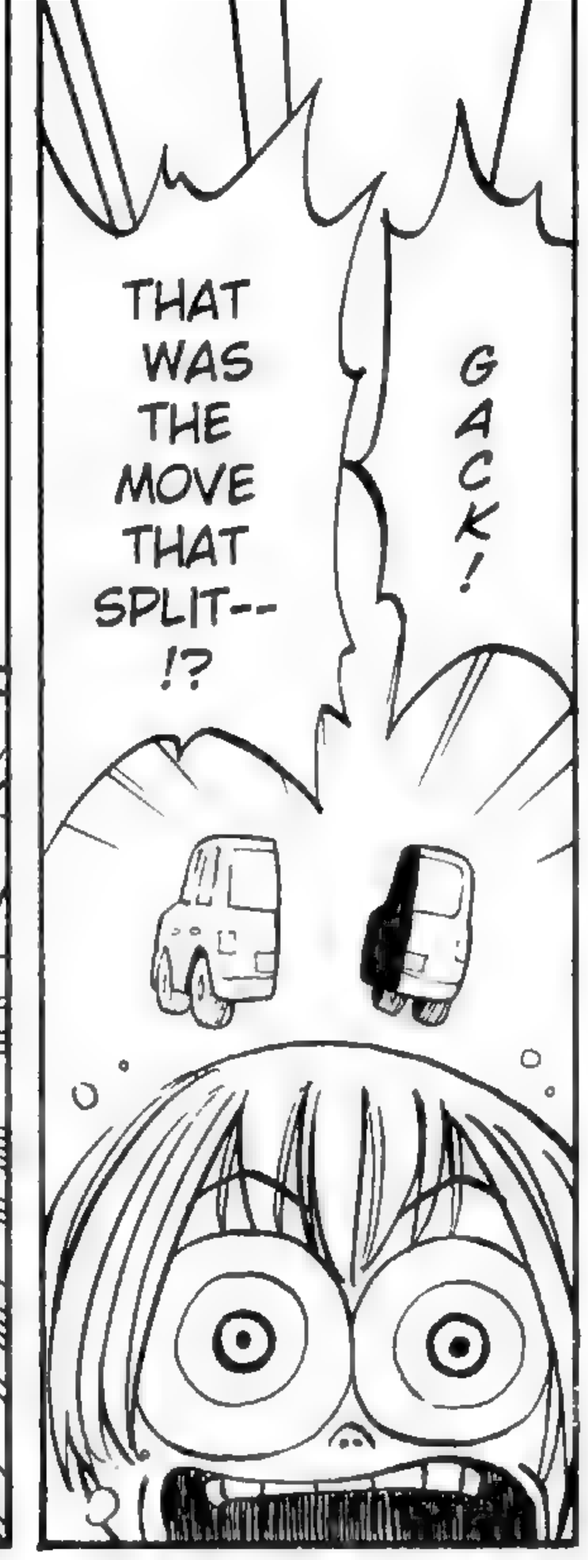


Vorpal Dance! ZHONG HUA ZHAN WU!!

KUSA

NRR!
...!
KL OI MP

AMIDAMARU! HE'LL SPLIT YOH IN HALF IF YOU DON'T DODGE THAT! BUT HOW CAN YOU DODGE FROM THAT STANCE...?!


THAT WAS THE MOVE THAT SPLIT--!?
GACK!

THIS

HANDLE

CAN

I

SWIP
!? AHG
IF I CANNOT DODGE, I SHALL PARRY!

WHAT!? HE DEFLECTED BASON'S METAL-CUTTING VORPAL DANCE!

HIS SPEED AND ACCURACY ARE IN-CREDIBLE!

H-HE BLOCKED IT!!

HA!

TUP TUP TUP

TESTING MY STRENGTH !?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU MUST REALIZE THAT HE CAN'T ACCESS EVEN 10% OF YOUR POWER.

BUT YOU CAN'T DEFEAT ME IN THE BODY OF HEADPHONES BOY!

AMIDAMARU... YOU ARE FAR STRONGER THAN BASON.

RRMMMM

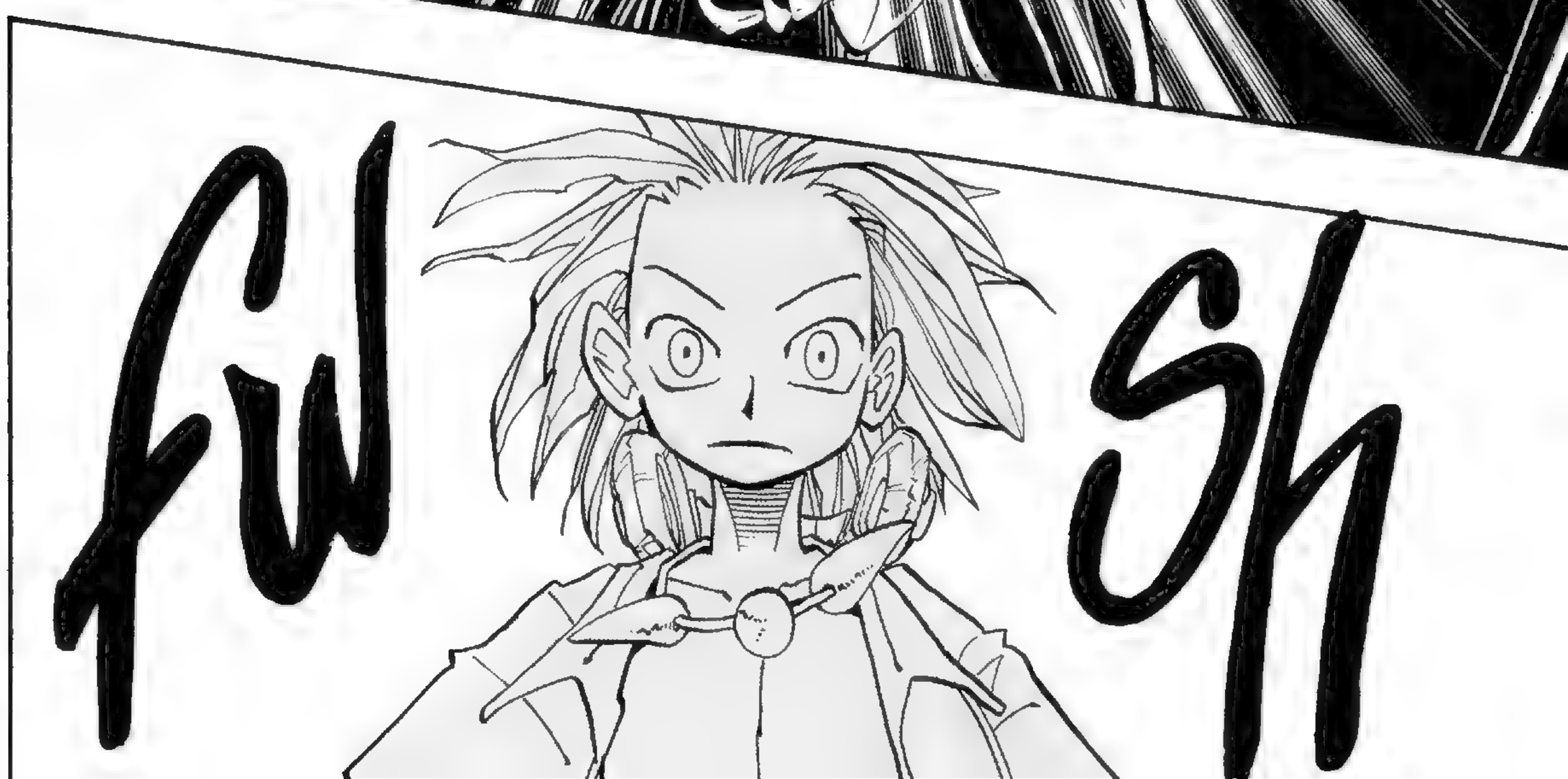
HA HA HA!! OBSERVE THE POWER OF A TRUE SHAMAN!!

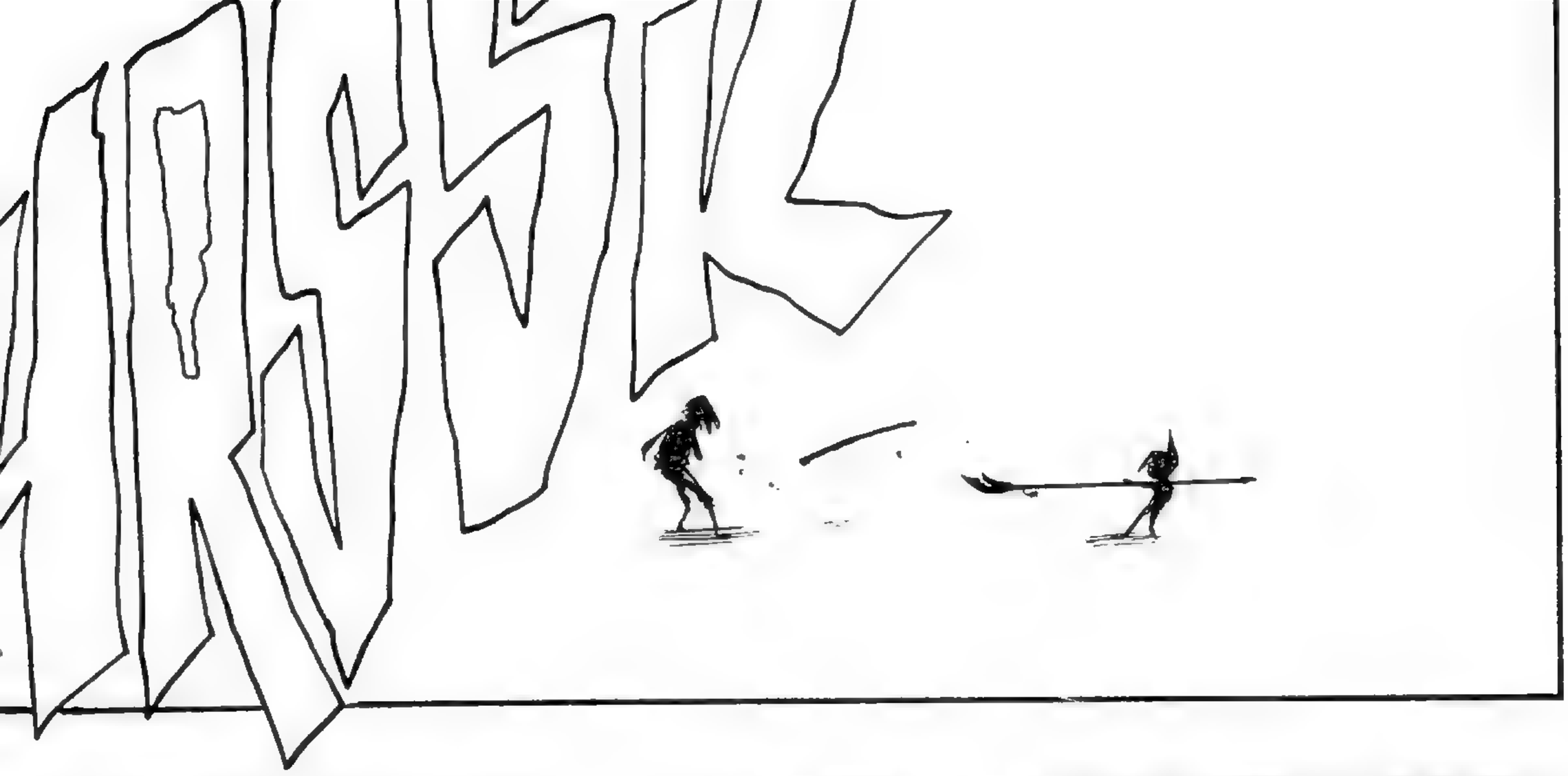
!

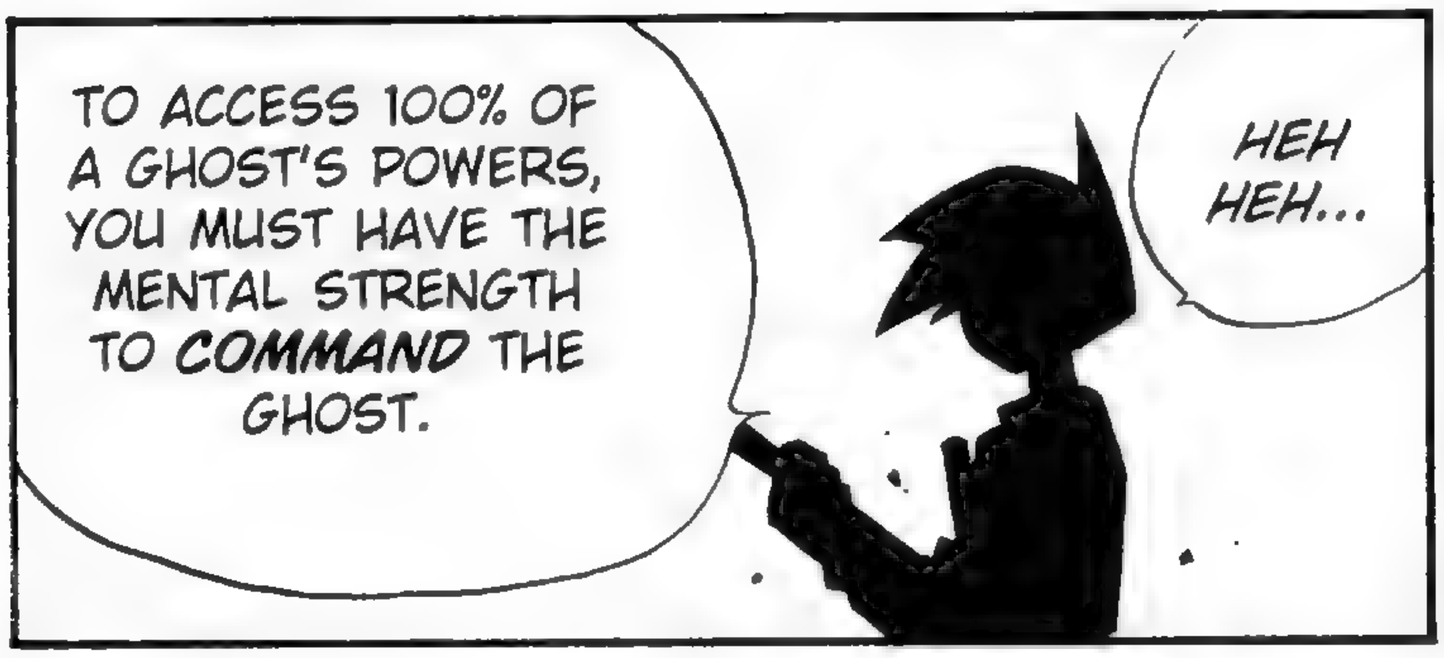
10% !?

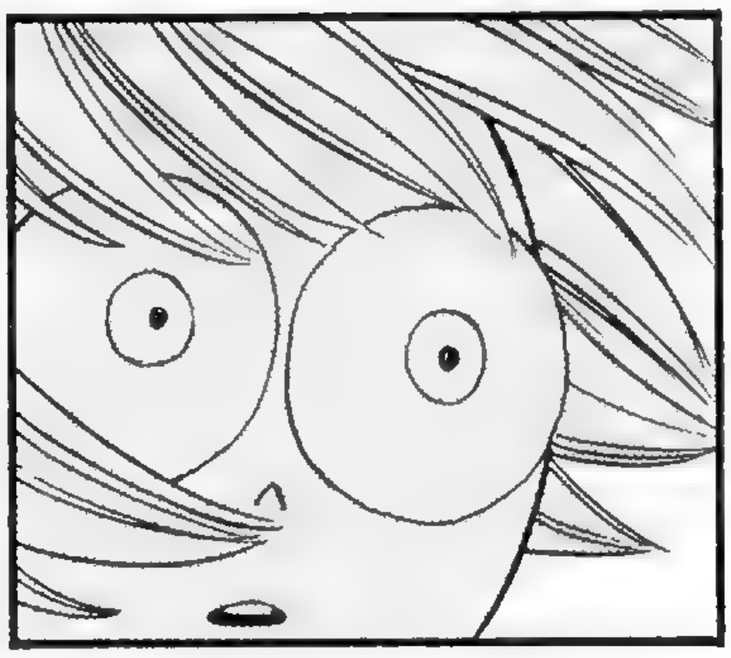
VORPAL DANCE!!! ZHONG HUA ZHAN WU!!!

100% INTE-GRA-TION!!!!






TO ACCESS 100% OF A GHOST'S POWERS, YOU MUST HAVE THE MENTAL STRENGTH TO COMMAND THE GHOST.
HEH HEH...

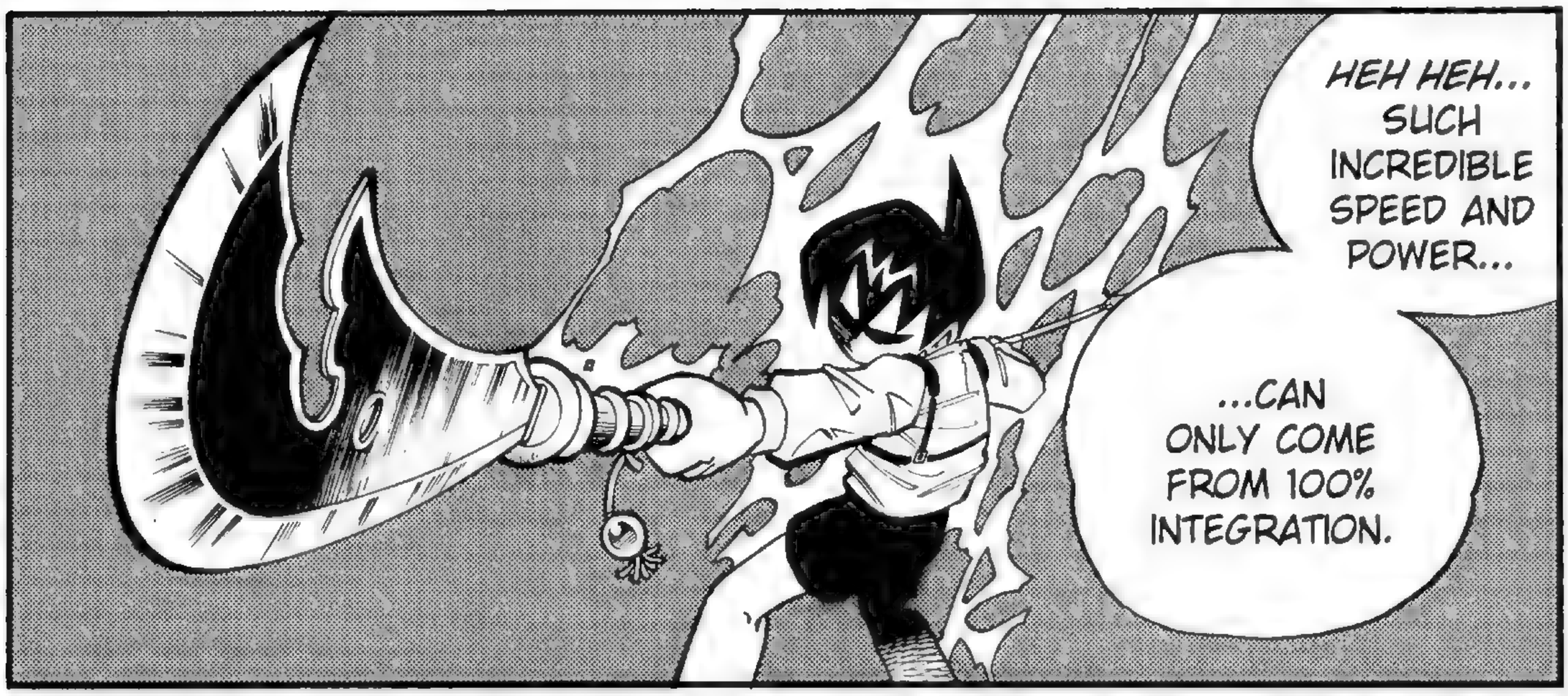


AMIDAMARU... IS MINE.
THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR SHAMANIC ABILITIES IS VAST.

SHAMAN KING

1

REINCARNATION 8:
100% INTEGRATION
YOH!!
Y-
FUPP


HEH HEH... SUCH INCREDIBLE SPEED AND POWER...
...CAN ONLY COME FROM 100% INTEGRATION.

NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOUR GHOST IS, YOU COULD NEVER BEAT ME.

YOU CAN BARELY MANAGE 10%...

AMIDAMARU IS MINE.
THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR ABILITIES... AND RANKS.
KSH

Reincarnation 8: 100% Integration

YAAAH!!

EEE...

YOH AND AMIDAMARU LOST!!
AAAAAAH!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!!

HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY DOMINATE GHOSTS!
MUCH LESS A SHAMAN WHO CONSIDERS GHOSTS HIS "FRIENDS!"

A SHAMAN WHO CAN'T IMPOSE HIS WILL ON GHOSTS CAN NEVER TAP THEIR FULL POWER.

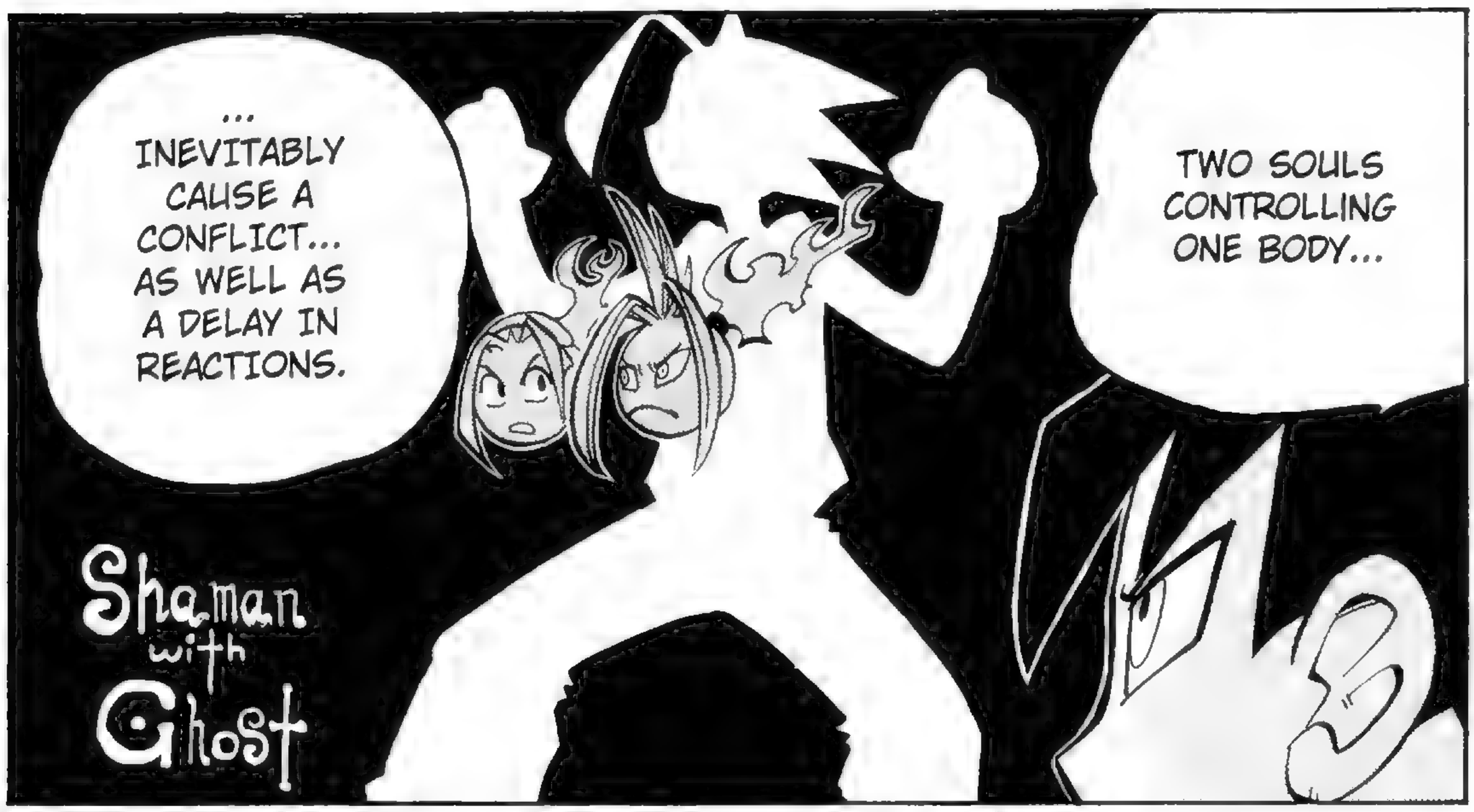
HE WAS SOFT.
HMPH.
KSH
KSH
KSH

DURING SOUL INTEGRATION, TWO SOULS OCCUPY ONE BODY AT THE SAME TIME.
KSH
KSH
YES.
THERE IS A REASON WE MUST DO SO.

...!
DOMINATE!?

YOU BEGIN TO SEE.
AH...

TWO...!


...
INEVITABLY CAUSE A CONFLICT... AS WELL AS A DELAY IN REACTIONS.
TWO SOULS CONTROLLING ONE BODY...
Shaman with Ghost

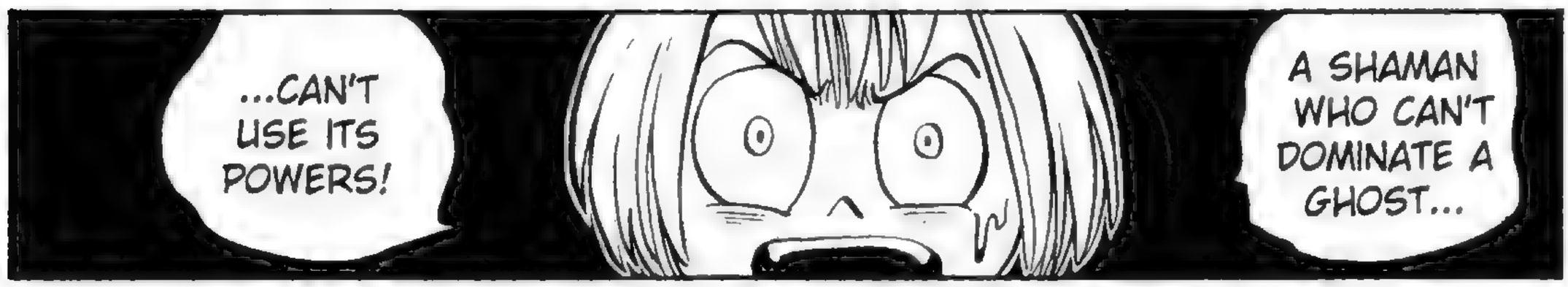
WITH TWO EQUAL SOULS-- OR "FRIENDS"-- AT THE CONTROLS, THE BODY CAN'T BE OPTIMALLY UTILIZED.
OH YEAH?
UP!
LEFT!
RIGHT!
DURING SOUL INTEGRATION, TWO SOULS OCCUPY ONE BODY AT THE SAME TIME.

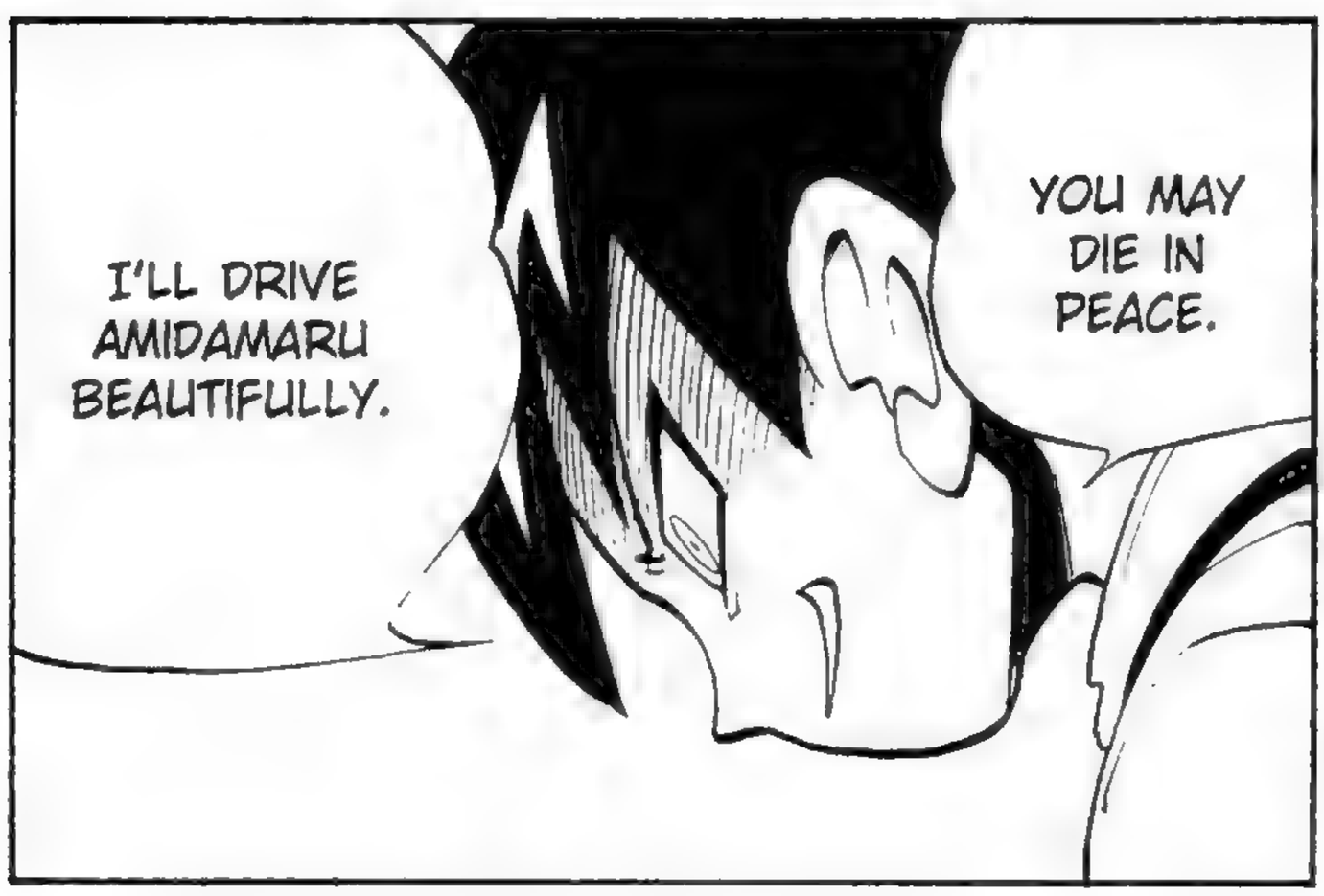
A DRIVEL-SPEWING BLEEDING HEART WHO TREATS GHOSTS AS "FRIENDS" CANNOT ACCESS 100% OF THEIR POWERS!

A SHAMAN EXPLOITS A GHOST'S POWERS.

HE MUST COMPLETELY DOMINATE THE GHOST AT ALL TIMES, AND USE IT LIKE A *TOOL!*

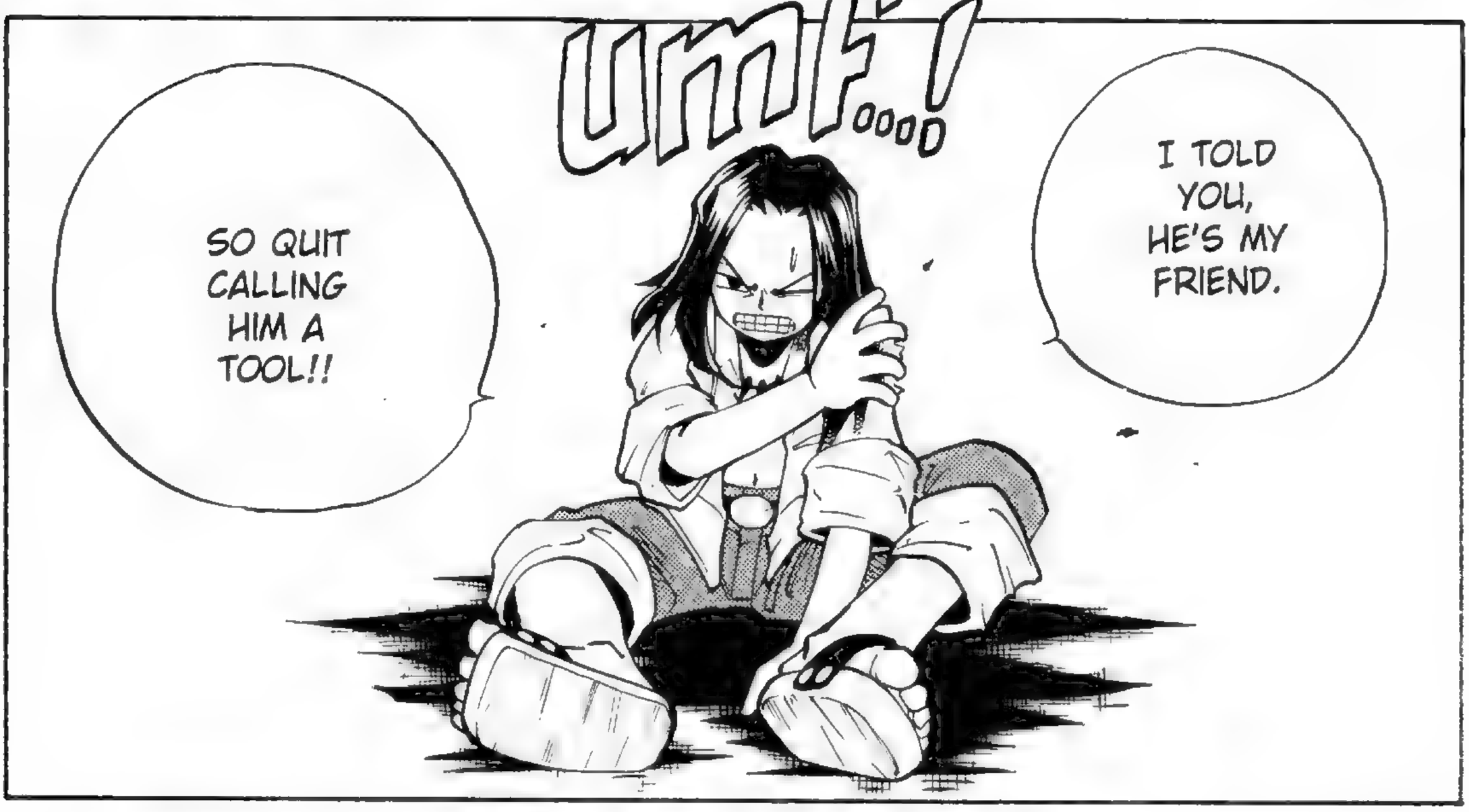
SNAP





!

AMIDAMARU IS NOT A MACHINE!!


umf...!
SO QUIT CALLING HIM A TOOL!!
I TOLD YOU, HE'S MY FRIEND.

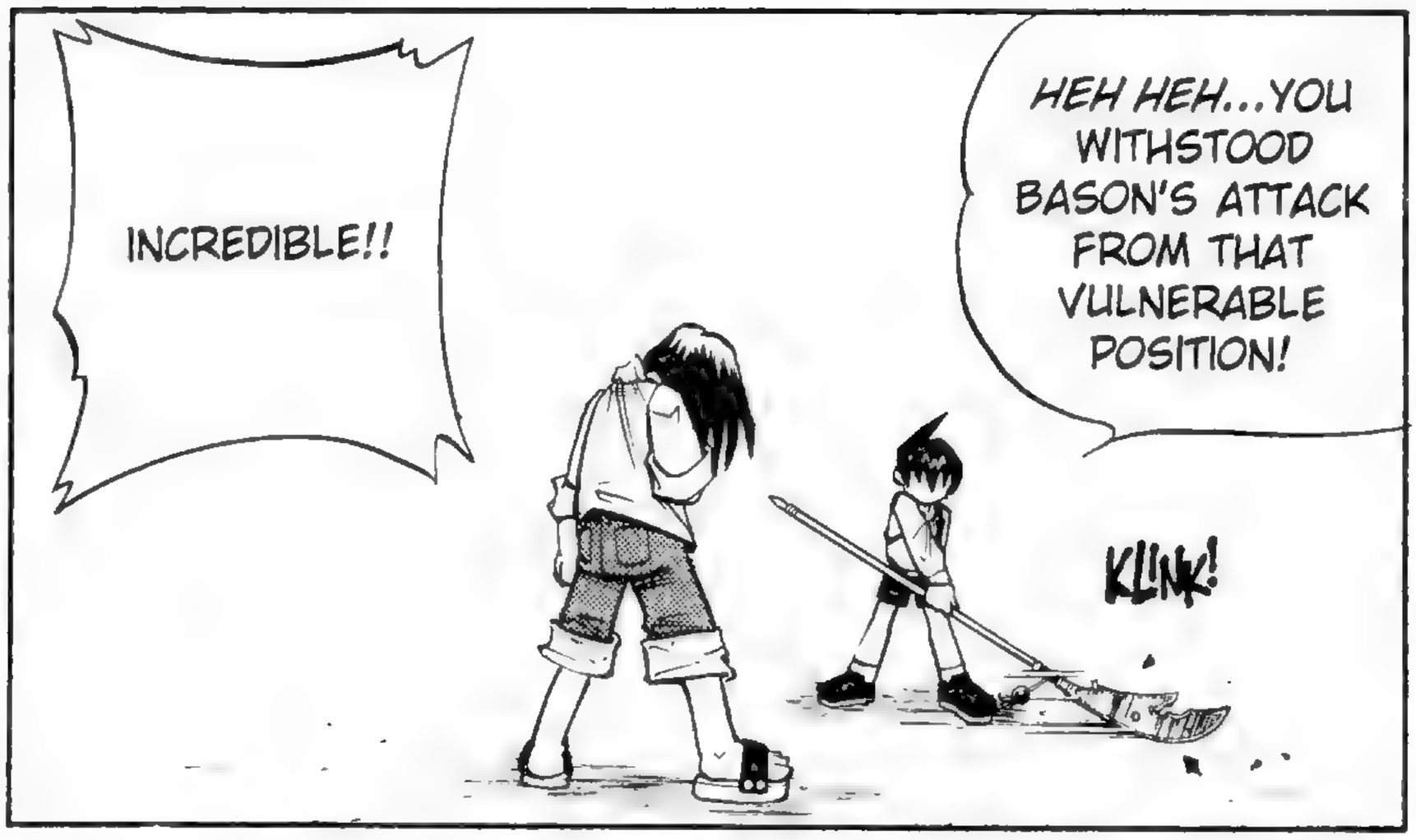
...

HEH.

fwish
YOU... YOU CAN STILL GET UP!?
LOOK AT ALL THIS BLOOD! MY ARM WOULD'VE BEEN SLICED OFF IF AMIDAMARU HADN'T DODGED AT THE LAST MOMENT.
OUCH!

Y-
YOH !!
yay

IT MAKES ME WANT YOU ALL THE MORE...

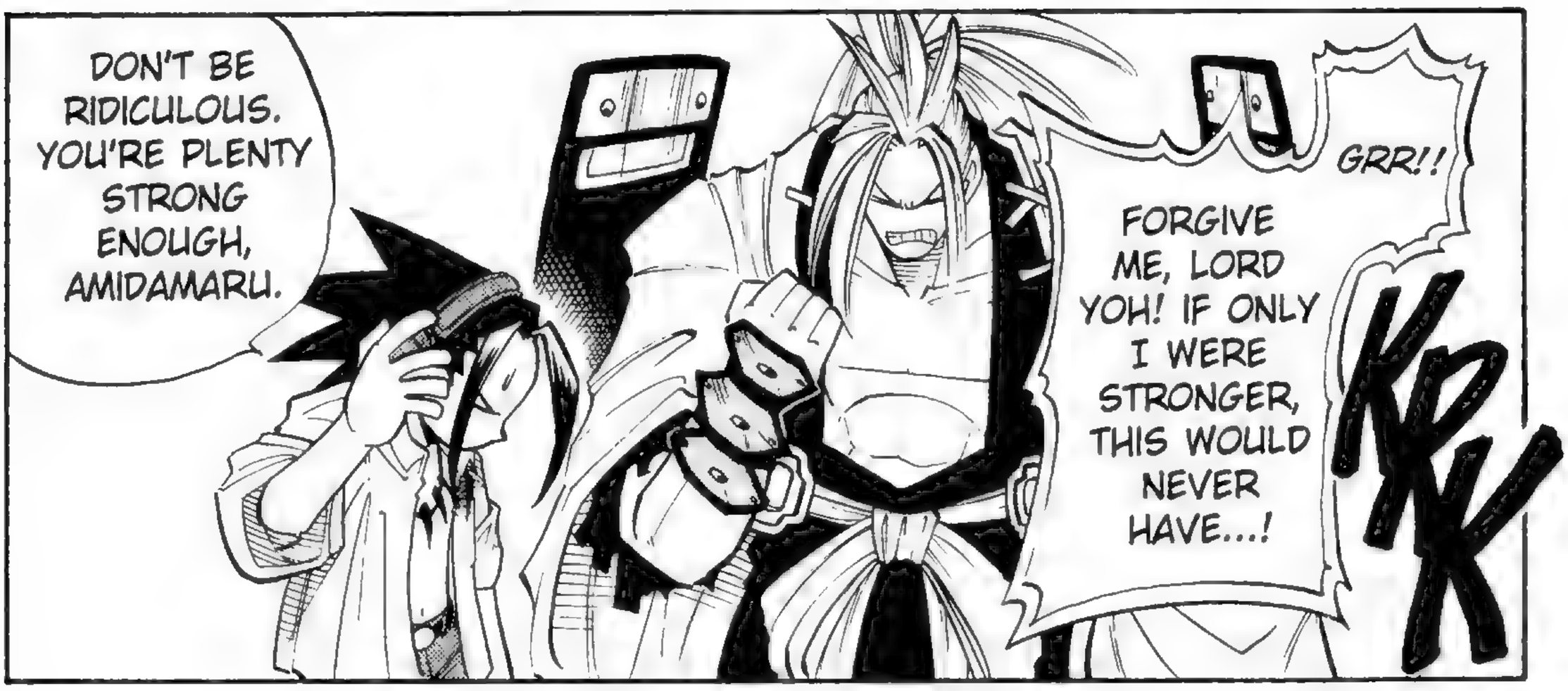

INCREDIBLE!!
HEH HEH...YOU WITHSTOOD BASON'S ATTACK FROM THAT VULNERABLE POSITION!
KLINK!

NEVER! I WILL NEVER GO TO YOU!
hff
hff

...AMIDA-MARU!!
DOUN

NOT WITH YOUR MASTER WOUNDED.

IF I ATTACKED AGAIN, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO DODGE.
DON'T PUT ON SUCH A SHOW. WHAT CAN YOU DO UNDER THESE CONDITIONS?


DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE PLENTY STRONG ENOUGH, AMIDAMARU.
GRR!!
FORGIVE ME, LORD YOH! IF ONLY I WERE STRONGER, THIS WOULD NEVER HAVE...!
KK

I'M THE ONE WHO FAILED. I NEVER EXPECTED TO MEET A SHAMAN LIKE HIM.

AMIDAMARU, I PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO BEAT HIM, SO YOU'D BETTER GO, RIGHT NOW.

BUT--

IF YOU DIE, THERE WILL BE NO PLACE FOR THAT SAMURAI IN THIS WORLD.
HA! A POINTLESS GESTURE.

!?

AMIDAMARU FEELS NO ATTACHMENT TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.
THEN HE'LL GO TO WHERE HIS FRIEND MOSUKE IS-- THE AFTERLIFE.
WHAT!?
AFTERLIFE?
...!

heh
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WOULD GIVE UP YOUR PERSONAL GHOST!?
ONCE A GHOST CROSSES OVER, HE CAN NEVER RETURN TO THIS WORLD!

BECOME YOUR *MACHINE!*

IT'S BETTER THAN LETTING HIM...

PUSH

I'LL KILL YOU *BEFORE* YOUR SAMURAI CAN LEAVE THIS WORLD AND MAKE HIM *MINE!!*

IN THAT CASE...

ZEO

CLEAN!

WOOSH

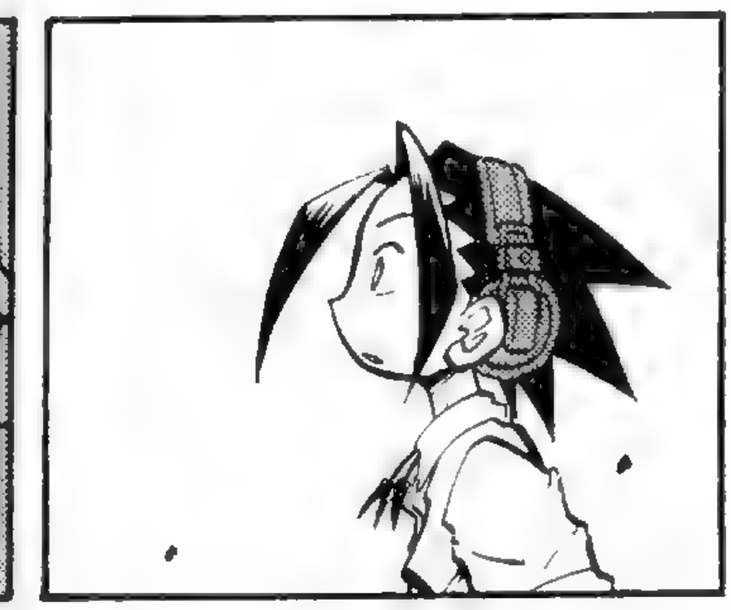
AMIDAMARU !!

I KNOW THAT OUR FOE IS STRONGER! I KNOW THIS WORLD IS NOT FOR ME!!

EVEN IF WE CANNOT WIN, IT WOULD BE AN UNBEARABLE SHAME FOR A SAMURAI TO ABANDON HIS LORD WITHOUT A FIGHT!

I HAVE GROWN... ATTACHED TO YOU, LORD YOH!

NEVER-THE-LESS...



100% INTE-GRA-TION!!

COME, BASON!!

vorpal dance !!!!!
ZHONG HUA ZHAN WU !!!!!
WAAAAAGGHH!!

KACHING

...!

IT COULDN'T BE...!
HOW COULD HE BLOCK BASON'S STRIKE?

WAIT!

YOU'RE JUST DELAYING THE INEVITABLE TO INTEGRATE AT THIS POINT IN THE GAME!
HE BLOCKED IT!?

ACHIEVE TOTAL INTE-GRATION ...!?

CAN HE, TOO...

KA-CHING

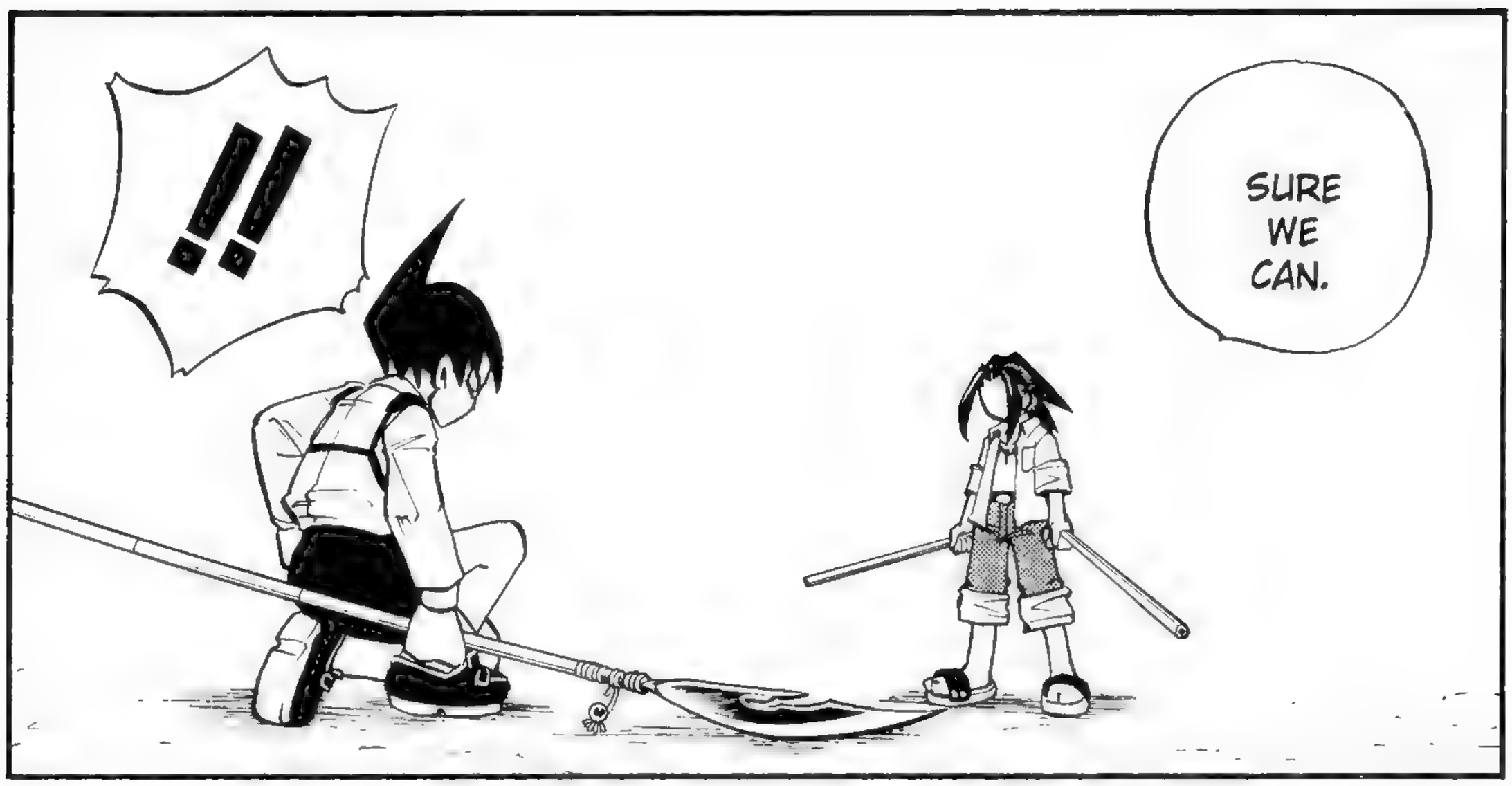
THAT WAS A FLUKE. A GHOST'S "FRIEND" COULDN'T POSSIBLY...

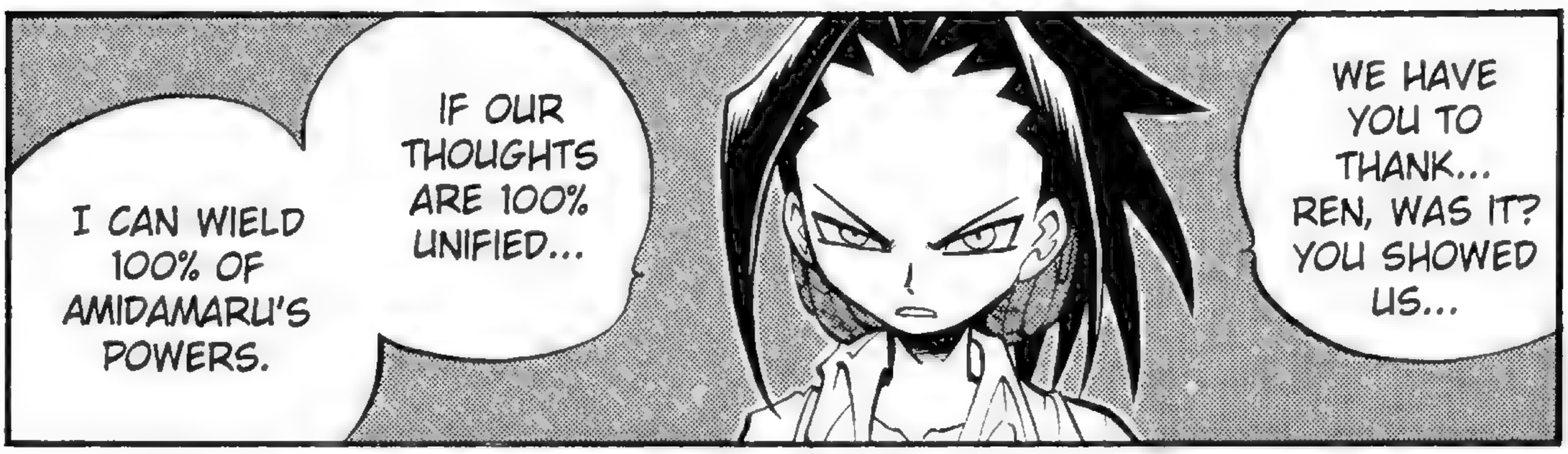
HMPH.

IMPOSS-IBLE...

WHP WHP WHP

THUNP


!!
SURE WE CAN.


I CAN WIELD 100% OF AMIDAMARU'S POWERS.
IF OUR THOUGHTS ARE 100% UNIFIED...
WE HAVE YOU TO THANK... REN, WAS IT? YOU SHOWED US...

...!
THAT STANCE!

...IN OUR DETERMINATION TO BEAT YOU!
Slip
OUR THOUGHTS ARE NOW ONE...

THE STANCE THAT EARNED HIM THE TITLE OF "FIEND" 600 YEARS AGO!!

AMIDAMARU'S LEGENDARY FIGHTING STANCE!

THE BANE OF A THOUSAND ENEMIES!!

* ONE OF THE NAMES OF BUDDHA

TATHA-GATA-BBBB *

EQUALS CAN NEVER COOPERATE TOTALLY, NOT EVEN BEST FRIENDS.
WHAT A LOAD OF CRAP.
FWP
FWP
FWP

YOUR THOUGHTS ARE AS ONE, YOU SAY?
HA.

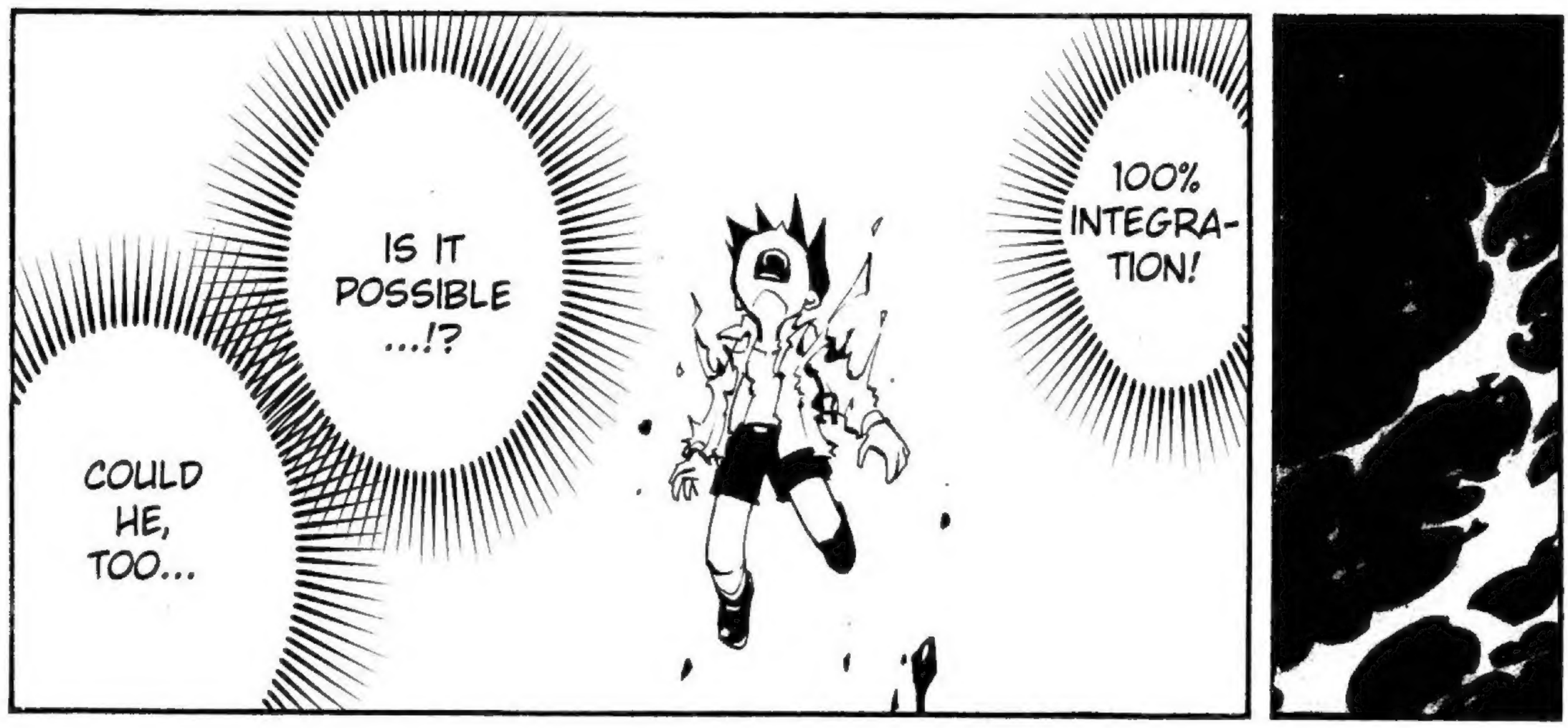
SWISH
WAS THERE EVER A TIME...

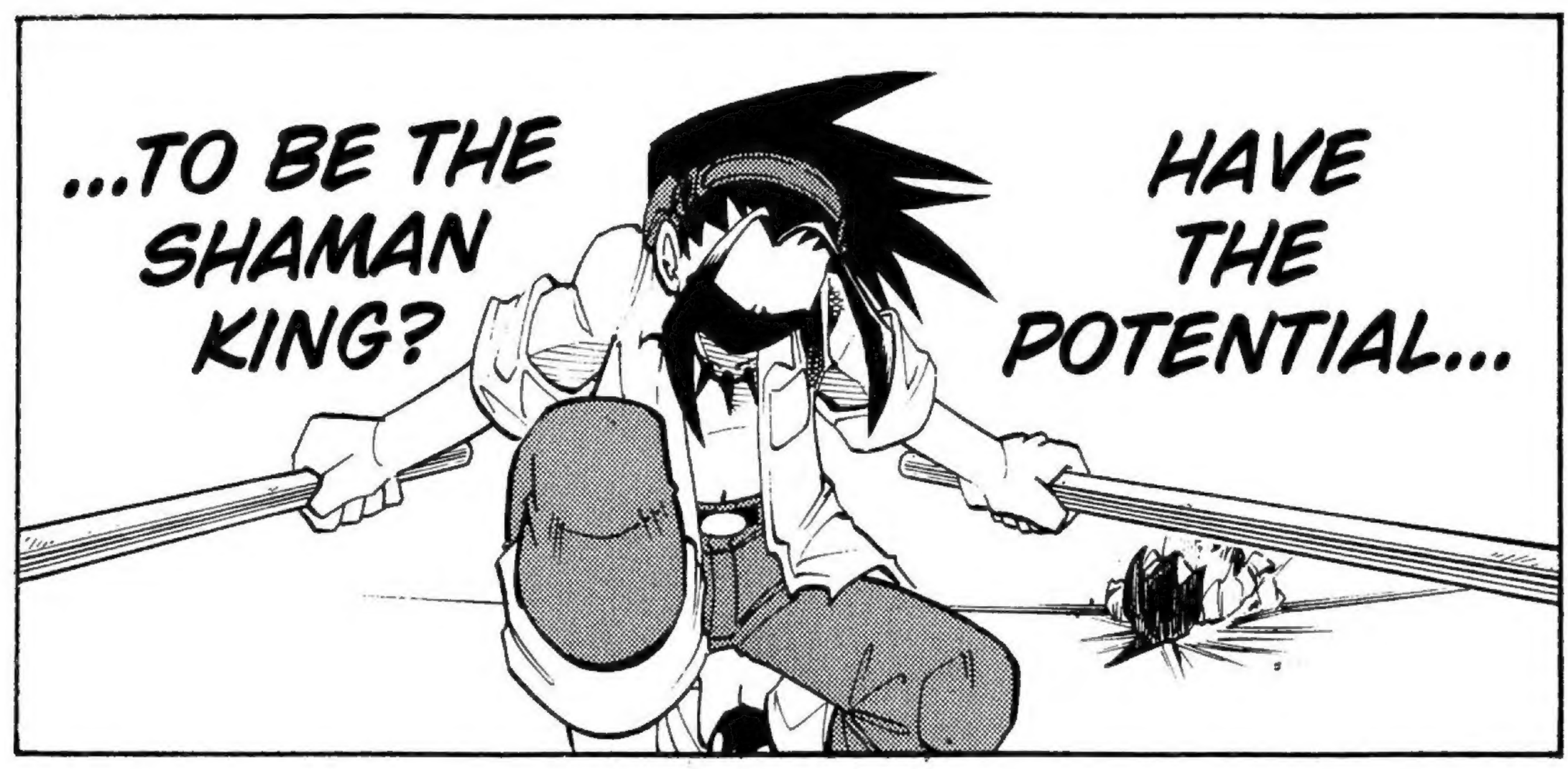
... WHEN YOUR FRIEND DID EVERYTHING EXACTLY AS YOU WANTED!?
WOP!

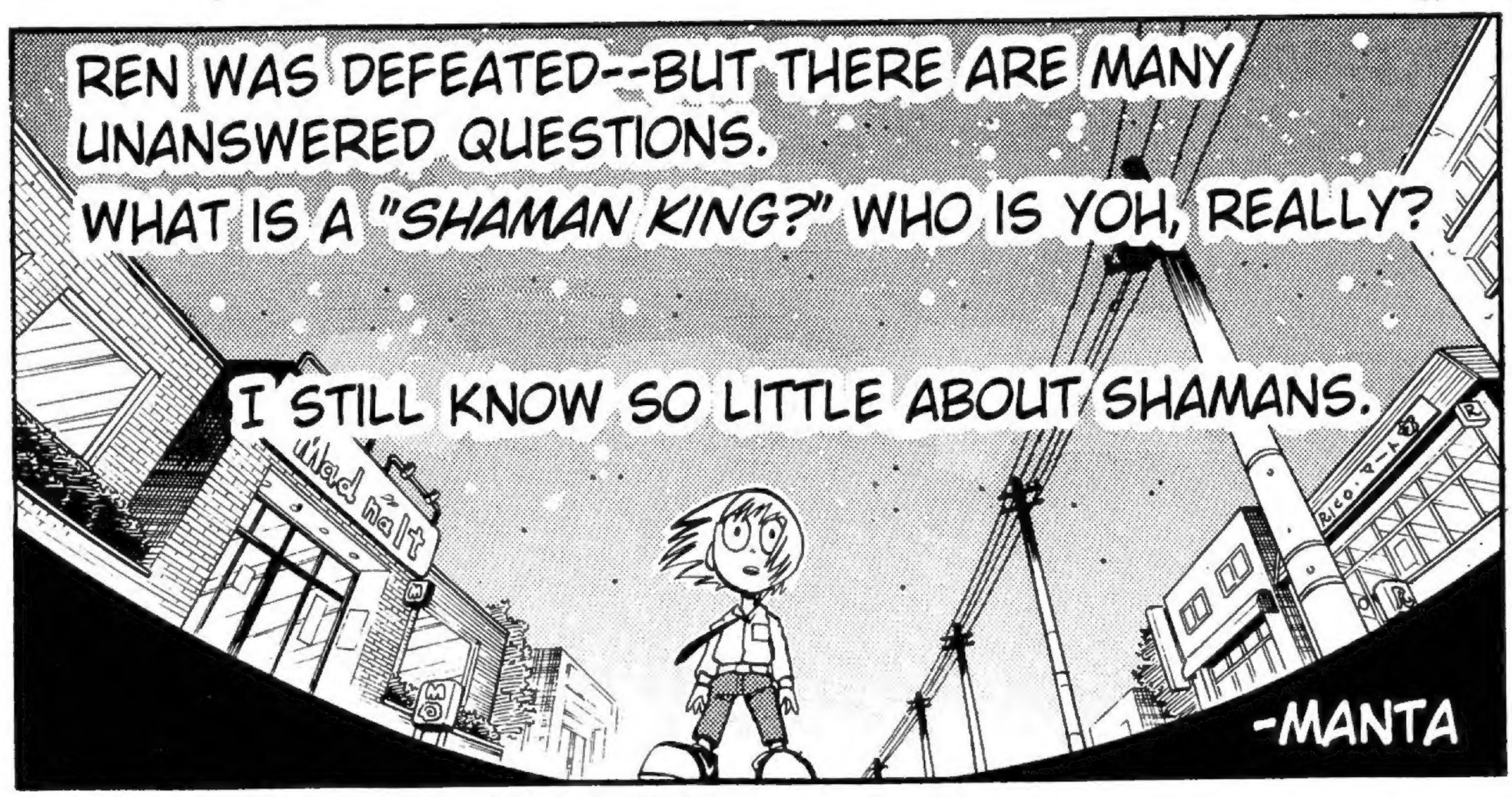
YES!!

HERE'S OUR ANSWER !!!!!
AMIDA RYU HALO BLADE !!!!!

READ THIS WAY







TO BE CONTINUED IN *SHAMAN KING* VOL. 2!

BONUS PAGE!

SHAMAN KING CHARACTER FILE No.4

BOKUTO NO RYU

("Wooden Sword" Ryu; real name Ryunosuke Umemiya)

- Bansho High School
- 12th Grade • Age: 17
- Birthday: December 24
- Star Sign: Capricorn
- Blood Type: O
- Ryu's first name means "dragon."

SPECIAL INFO! RYU'S COMPANIONS ON HIS SEARCH FOR THE "HAPPY PLACE"!

MUSCLE PUNCH

Ryu's advisor, he has 10 brothers and sisters; there's no elbow room at his house. (Note: "Muscle Punch," like all of these names, is a nickname created by Ryu himself.)

(LEFT TO RIGHT)

APACHE SPACE SHOT

A combat duo with a habit of mishearing things.

(LEFT TO RIGHT)

FREEDY

DEATH MACHINE

BLUE CHATEAU

JUNK FOOD

SILVER SUN

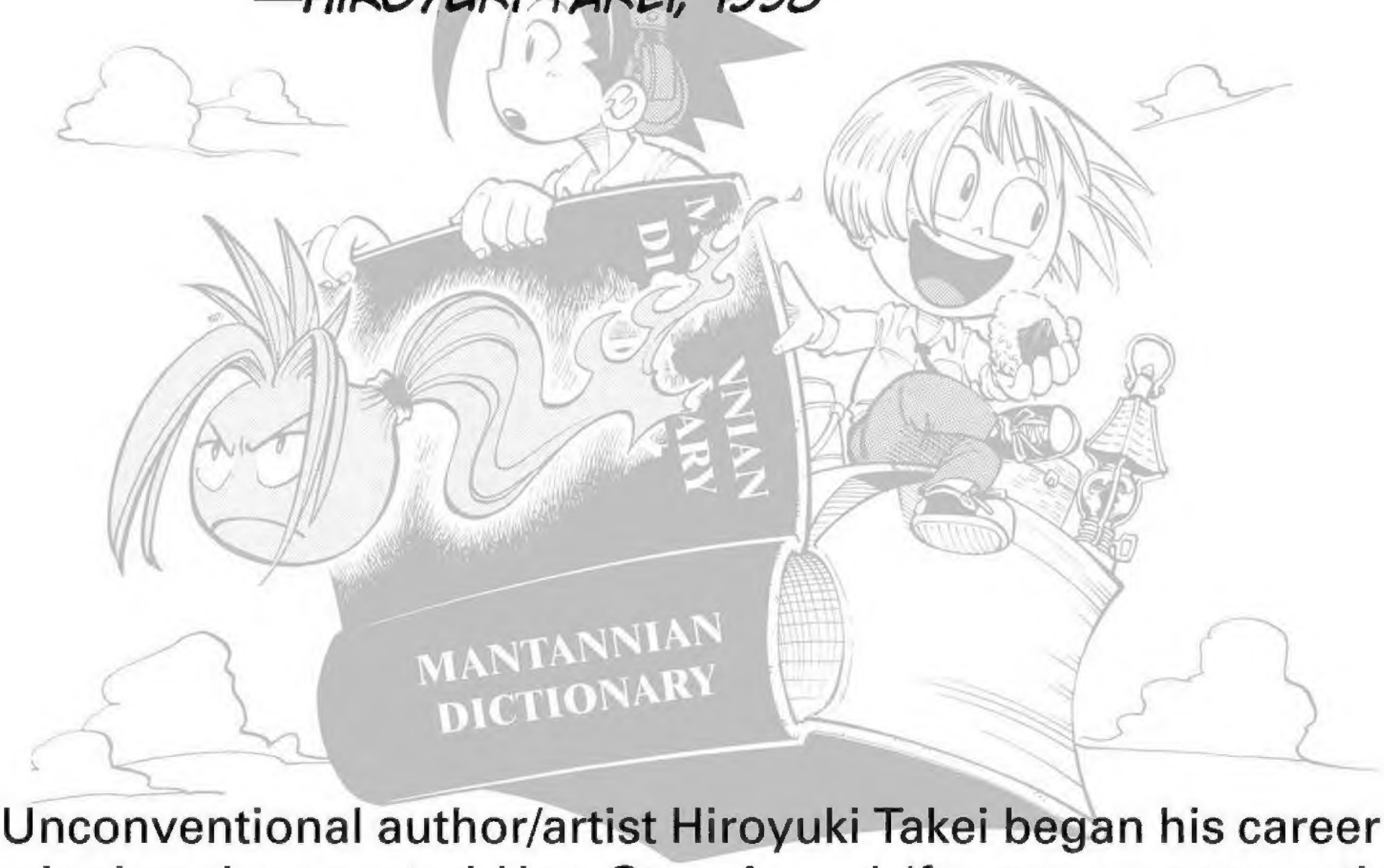
BALLBOY

He's quite superstitious for his age–plus he's a grandma's boy and a coward! But he's really very kind.

武井宏之

IT'S DIFFICULT TO GO THROUGH LOVE AND A MANGA SERIES A SECOND TIME BECAUSE I THINK ABOUT IT TOO MUCH. MAINLY BECAUSE I AM AFRAID OF BEING HURT AGAIN. BUT THIS NEEDS TO BE OVERCOME, OR YOU CAN NEVER GET INVOLVED WITH MANGA OR MARRIAGE. ANYWAYS, I'LL TRY MY BEST!

—HIROYUKI TAKEI, 1998



Unconventional author/artist Hiroyuki Takei began his career by winning the coveted Hop Step Award (for new manga artists) and the Osamu Tezuka Award (named after the famous artist of the same name). After working as an assistant to famed artist Nobuhiro Watsuki, Takei debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1997 with **Butsu Zone**, an action series based on Buddhist mythology. His multicultural adventure manga **Shaman King**, which debuted in 1998, became a hit and was adapted into an anime TV series. Takei lists Osamu Tezuka, American comics and robot anime among his many influences.